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SATURDAY NIGHT

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THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY

THE FRONT PAGE

What Will N. Grey Vote On?

GENERAL McNAUGHTON is quite likely to have difficulty in getting himself elected in North Grey next month. It is difficult to figure out precisely what effect his defeat would have on the prestige and authority of the Government. If he had been in any sense the author of the present reinforcement policy it would certainly be very bad. But he was not.

Up to November 16 General McNaughton was a convinced adherent of the voluntary system, and practically said that he would never abandon it. His importance to the Government, while he was still in private life, lay in the fact that had he gone conscriptionist before the Government did he could have been of enormous, almost overwhelming, value to the conscriptionist Opposition. Mr. King removed that danger by enlisting him in the Government while he and they were still voluntarists. Our own belief is that Mr. King thought that this action would suffice to repel the conscriptionist drive.

The drive however was not repelled, and the Government on November 22 met Parliament, and on November 23 became conscriptionist. Nominally it did so on the recommendation of General McNaughton; but nobody appears to have even suggested that it was General McNaughton's opinion which changed that of the Government. What actually did change it was the evident state of mind of the House. Now that the Government's policy is conscriptionist, General McNaughton's vehement adherence to voluntarism up to the very last minute makes him something rather less than a first-class asset with the conscriptionist part of the country, while his defeat by a Prog. Con. demanding still more vigorous conscription would do the Government no harm in Quebec.

A Directive

OUR knowledge of the latest directive issued by the Ontario Department of Education is obtained entirely from the newspapers favorable to the Ontario Government, and may not be accurate. From these we gather that principals of schools in the province are required to prevent the distribution in their schools of any printed matter sent to them without the Department's authorization; and the same newspapers explain that the particular object of the directive is to prevent the distribution of printed copies of speeches by the Prime Minister of Canada.

Prior to this event we were under the impression that the schools of Ontario were under the control of their respective school boards, and that the work of the Department was confined to the enforcement of certain educational standards. Certainly the Department does not appoint the principals, nor can we fancy, dismiss them. We are wondering what would happen if some principal, imbued with a passion for local autonomy and supported therein by his School Board, were to ignore this directive and distribute some unauthorized material. Would the principal be dismissed? Would the school district lose its provincial grant? Would the teachers who accepted the distributed matter be arrested? What action would be taken by the provincial police? Would any teachers' certificates be cancelled? Would the Board be summoned to appear at Queen's Park? What *would* happen?

New Best-Seller

THE Friends of Hansard have reason, we think, to congratulate themselves on the role of things revealed in a staff despatch to the *Globe and Mail* from Ottawa this week. The Dominion Government Printing Bureau officials are reported to be in a condition of amazement at the demand for copies of Hansard covering the recent session. The sale of copies for each of the two main days of the session has already gone 2,500 above normal.

We do not suggest that the activities of the Friends of Hansard have been entirely responsible for this increase of interest in the publication. But they have done a great deal to remove an obstacle to the satisfaction of that interest; for before the Friends started in on their work the vast majority of the people of Canada did not know that there existed a verbatim report of the proceedings of the House of Commons, available to the public at five cents a copy and three dollars a session. The recent short session was officially a part of the 1944 session, which was not prorogued in August, and subscribers got the extra days free of charge. They alone were well worth the price for the entire year. We understand that Hansard subscriptions are this year being given as Christmas presents, and we can think of few better gifts for a person interested in public affairs.

Reunion — The Best Christmas Gift of All!

Major Power's Scheme (?)

A FASCINATING story was put out by the Press Information Bureau, a service chiefly devoted to supplying French-Canadian political news for the English-speaking press, in the middle of last week. It concerned the resignation of Major Power, and was to the effect that that Minister, when asked to do what he could to get the moderate conscription policy accepted by his Quebec colleagues, replied that what Mr. King ought to do was to throw the conscriptionists out of the cabinet and take in new blood: "Mitchell Hepburn replacing Angus MacDonald, Arthur Roebuck taking the Labor portfolio, Gerry McGeer that of Finance, with Mr. Cardin returning to his post in Public Works, etc." This move, it was

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COL. OLIVER MOWAT BIGGAR

NAME IN THE NEWS

Biggar Is In Shape Again to Help Canada Get Along in the World

By COROLYN COX

AFTER his severe heart collapse of last spring, earned on this war's civilian "front", Col. Oliver Mowat Biggar is back on his feet, spends a few hours each day in his Ottawa law office.

In the black summer of 1940, when nobody knew what might happen, and so large a portion of the world frankly expected England to fall and the next front open up on this continent, Canada and the United States swiftly put their heads together on defence of North America. Col. Biggar assumed the critically important job of chairman of the Canadian section of the Permanent Joint Defence Board of Canada and the United States.

This was the first, the most important and quite the most successful of the joint boards. It is obvious and universally admitted that such success was directly due to the personnel of the two sections of the Board. Four men, chosen at that time, two on each side, have been continuously the civil members ever since; for Canada, Col. Biggar and Hugh Keenleyside of External Affairs, and for the U.S., New York's Mayor, Fiorello La Guardia and Jack Hickerson of the State Department. Only those four can know all about each other in this capacity, and what any one of them tells you about any other one "off the record" seems too good to be true "on the record".

In other words, over four terrific years in world history, at least in this one corner of the turmoil, an exceptionally high degree of co-operative technique and personal as well as national understanding has been achieved.

Since this Board is termed "permanent", Col. Biggar's contribution has been not only first class service today, but also a tradition and spirit for a period of history ahead of us in which civilized co-operation can play a seriously important part.

Col. Biggar's outstanding quality of value to the Board, the others maintain, was good old common sense. Far from "starry-eyed dreaming", the Board succeeded by dealing with one situation after another with forthrightness and realism. Col. Biggar can discuss and disagree without generating animosity. His mind is always in good athletic trim, and he still has an outdoors complexion and clear blue eye that make his white hair seem premature. Today, looking back over four years of hard work in a world buzzing with talk of world governments, internationalism and bright ideas, his delectable sense of humor just saves his realistic reflections from cynicism.

There is as yet no mass feeling anywhere in the world, Col. Biggar believes, for international authority. The idea is theoretical but not so far effective, since people everywhere tend to *feel* instinctively in smaller groups. Main historical lines, he finds, are determined by currents of instinctive opinion. No man's presence at international conferences, on the political "higher level", ever depends upon his activities in international affairs. His being there, whether he is Anthony Eden or some lesser name, is determined by his maintaining the stability of the Government of which he is a member. Result of wars, what we do with what we have won, turns back to domestic politics. And there, he points out, you get back to peoples who follow those waves of instinctive opinion, not theories of international relations.

Col. Biggar is solid Scot, eldest grandson of the great Sir Oliver Mowat, Post-Master General in 1854 and later for many years Premier of Ontario. Biggar was born in Toronto, educated there in Upper Canada College, "Varsity" and Osgoode Hall for law, called to the Ontario Bar in 1901. Two years later he went out to Edmonton, made a sound reputation as a lawyer, took a full share in public service, but not in politics, served on the Board of Governors of Edmonton University and on the Board of Edmonton Hospital.

On the outbreak of World War One, he took a commission in the 101st Regiment, Edmonton Fusiliers and was soon made Deputy Judge Advocate General, Military District 13, Calgary. He was brought to Ottawa on the Military Service Council to assist in the administration of the Military Service Act, appointed Judge Advocate General of Canada in 1918, became a full colonel the next year.

Biggar went to the Peace Conference with Sir Robert Borden as one of the Canadian Delegation, acted as British Secretary in Paris to the Commission on the Authors of War and Penalties. When he returned to Canada, he was made Vice-Chairman, under the Hon. A. L. Sifton, of the Air Board, organized the original Air Department of Canada, a "baby" he has watched with pride reach maturity during the present conflict.

Col. Biggar's integrity and dispassionate intelligence was formally recognized when in 1920 the whole House of Commons approved his appointment as the first Chief Electoral Officer of Canada to set up an organization that would ensure a well-regulated system of balloting in federal elections, independent of party control. He was also made Chairman of the Interdepartmental Committee on the St. Lawrence Waterway.

After seven years, with the organization of the electoral job completed, Col. Biggar felt no desire to settle down in his civil service post, retired to become a partner of the law firm of Smart and Biggar in Ottawa. He has had an interesting professional career, handled a number of large and intricate industrial property and constitutional cases. He is no Social Crediter, but the Province of Alberta chose him to act for it in the famous cases of the Social Credit Act and the Bank Taxation Act, in which Biggar lost the cases but not the confidence of the Province. He was chosen counsel for the Senate Committee on the Railway Situation, acting both in 38 and 39.

The Chief Censor

In May 1942, the Government asked Col. Biggar to undertake one more organizing job which he carried through competently and without fuss. Five different Departments of Government were each responsible for one angle of wartime censorship; the Press in Secretary of State's Department, Postal in Post-Office, Radio Broadcasting in War Services, Telegraph in National Defence and Radio Messages in Transport. Col. Biggar as Chief Censor for Canada gathered them all into one branch of the National War Services Department, and with his usual combination of the non-political legal mind plus thorough familiarity with business, produced a simple, quiet running machine with a minimum of disturbance in a field that could so easily be given over to confusion and dissension.

To put it in a nutshell, Col. Biggar has been a blessing to Canada during this war. Like enough the "Little Flower" would add, "and to the United States as well." His views on international control and what's referred to as "individual enterprise" may sound a little "conservative"—(with a small c!). But should that "current of instinctive opinion" he finds motivates history run toward widespread international machinery of the sort he has so ably helped set up between Canada and the U.S., he could give further good account of himself in working out the problem.

He is on record as saying back in 1940, "Should the world wish to be policed, with war between nations banished, the most hopeful way of policing it would be by putting control of the air into the hands of a technical committee, such as the present Joint Board of Defence". This is exactly the proposal Canada tossed onto the floor of the Civil Aviation Conference of 54 Nations in Chicago last month. It wasn't accepted, but neither was its future adoption irrevocably barred.

DEAR MR. EDITOR

Who Will Lead Small Nations? A Need for New Tolerance

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

A FEW months ago it became clear that Canada was assuming the role of leader of small nations, and we rejoiced that finally some one was raising a voice in their behalf. Now it seems that this policy has been abandoned.

We strongly endorse your recent statement that there is more need at this moment for Canadian leadership than there has ever been. Our country is capable of taking over the duty of leader of small nations, because she knows and understands the different groups which make up the mosaic pattern of Canada. There are great possibilities for these groups, for in co-operation with our Government they can play an important role in a survey of the conditions and aims of so-called "small nations", the countries of their ancestors.

CANADIAN POLISH CONGRESS
President: J. S. W. GROCHOLSKI
Secretary: F. GLOGOWSKI.
Toronto, Ont.

Be Tolerant

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

AS AN ENGLISH speaking Protestant Canadian, who has been closely associated with French Canadians for nearly seventy years, I find not many of the Editorial articles of these days apropos. The French Canadian wishes to be left alone to enjoy his home, his religion and his language, which are all safeguarded by the British Commonwealth.

Every separate Province in Canada is a separate nation, with differing customs, differing ways of doing things; so Canadians as a whole must learn tolerance, and the will not to impose their provincial ideas on the next man, but to work together as a United Nation. A tolerant Protestant English speaking Canadian who can speak French and has learned to respect French Canadian beliefs, their manner of living, and their polite manners, is respected and loved by them.

CHAS. E. H. PHILLIPS
Halifax, N.S.

Medicine for Inflation

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

AS PROOF of the fact that the Canadian people by their whole hearted cooperation with the Federal Government are, up to the present, winning their fight against inflation,—I submit some figures taken from *The Canada Year Books* that are well worth perusing and pondering over.

During the past five war years—the most prosperous in the history of Canada—the Total National Income was around 25 Billion Dollars. Out of this national income, the living costs of the people was around 11 billion; they invested in Victory Bonds and in the reduction of mortgage loans around 7 billion; they invested in life insurance around 3 billion; and they paid income and excess profits taxes around 4 billion.

Due to the excellent educational newspaper advertising of the Federal Government, the people in Canada today are well aware that they cannot escape a catastrophic inflation unless they take daily cognizance of the necessary drastic measures to combat inflation outlined in the Government Advertisements.

And if the Canadian People continue to cooperate with the Federal Government to prevent a repetition today of the inflation that came after World War I, the Nation will continue to prosper in the post-war.

Montreal, Que. MORRIS GOODMAN.

Veterans' Lands

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

I WISH to express approval of Mr. Stewart C. Easton's analysis of the Veteran Lands Act in a recent edition of SATURDAY NIGHT. To avoid the mistakes that operation of the Soldier Settlement Act of the first World War revealed, I would submit two principles that might aid in the satisfactory working of the Act.

First, the oversight of the veteran's farming by an experienced successful farmer with power to enforce improvement in methods; and, secondly, the retention by the Government of the title to the land until the veteran would be in a position to purchase the title free of debt. In place of the title he would be given a life lease of the farm at a small annual rental, say, two per cent of the cost of the farm. This would allow the veteran to use all his present and future capital in improving living conditions and in the purchase of necessary equipment.

Goderich, Ont. J. N. KERNIGHAN

Cultivate Self-Reliance

Editor, SATURDAY NIGHT:

DR. SYDNEY SMITH, President-elect of the University of Toronto, is quoted as saying: "Social security, to my mind, could be better designated as minimum social standards. The pioneers of this country built it out of the risks that they took. They did not ask for mere security. If we think only in terms of security there may be engendered a spirit of timidity that will not venture beyond the area of security." This surely is sound doctrine. It is "good medicine" for most of those who tend to lean on the State instead of upon their own energies, exertions and prudence.

There must be means of avoiding economic depressions. There must be unemployment insurance and adequate old age pensions, but Dr. Smith (Mr. Bracken too) is wise in predicating that government assistance should not go so far as to promote indolent dependence upon the public treasury. Myriad-minded Shakespeare drove the argument home when he made Hecate say to the First Witch in Macbeth—

"And you all know security
Is mortal's chiefest enemy."

In *Measure for Measure* Lucio exclaims to Isabella:—

"Our doubts are traitors
And make us lose the good we oft might win
By fearing to attempt."

How much more inspiring and constructive is such counsel than the enervating slogan "Safety First" or the depressing undermining of manhood by the socialistic teachings of the C.C.F!

Toronto, Ont. F. D. L. SMITH
Ottawa, Ont.

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PHOTOGRAPH ON PAGE 1

Sergeant-Major E. S. Wood of Toronto, home at last after years of service overseas is being greeted by his son, Billy and niece, Dolores. This is a National Film Board Photograph.

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The Front Page

(Continued from Page One)

urged, would enable the Liberals to sweep Quebec, and would gain the sympathy of Western leftists "and at the same time Mitch Hepburn would bring in Ontario."

We find none of this incredible except the idea that Mr. Hepburn would in these circumstances have been able to "bring in" Ontario. The McGeer-Slaght ramp against the banks may well have been motivated by the project of getting one of those gentlemen into a cabinet with considerably more leftist coloring than the present one; indeed no other motive for it has ever been visible. But such a move would have violently alienated all the financial interests, have destroyed the Victory Loan organization for financing the war, and have thrown into opposition all the more conservative elements in the Liberal party. Mr. Ilsley, Mr. Ralston, Mr. Howe, could scarcely have aligned themselves to support such a Government, and with them in a coalition with the Prog. Cons. the prospects of Mr. Hepburn delivering a large block of Liberals from Ontario would surely have been rather dim. The author of the story says that Mr. King was "too old" for so daring a strategy. We suspect that he was also too wise.

A.D. 1944

A year with the river of death in spate
A roaring year for the naval guns;
Each yesterday crystallizing hate
In the souls of a billion mothers' sons!
But the trillium grew in the wooded glen
And the bluebird sang again.

A year when youth was carrion-stuff
When cripples sat in the city ways,
A political year of lies and bluff,
With Beauty lost in a trackless maze.
But the bobolink wheeled over the wheat
And the roses still were sweet.

J. E. M.

Sir Thomas Retires

FEW men if any have made as deep a mark on the history of Canada in a scant eight years of active political life as Sir Thomas White, whose retirement from the chairmanship of Bank of Commerce board indicates a wish to enjoy the fruits of leisure at the not too early age of seventy-eight. Sir Thomas was unknown to politics in 1911 when he was made Minister of Finance by Sir Robert Borden; and he left office in 1919, as soon as it was evident that the problems of war finance were at an end. He remained in the House until the middle of the 1921 session, when he resigned his seat, and took no part in the election of that year which resulted in the Liberal victory.

While Mr. Meighen was the orator and case-pleader of the Borden Government there can be little doubt that Sir Thomas was the man behind the throne. He was acting Prime Minister during the Peace Conference, and his retirement left the party gravely weakened. But Sir Thomas will be remembered chiefly for his firm and courageous conduct of the finances of Canada's first great adventure in modern large-scale war. While the present war is much vaster, it can be argued that the financial problems of the last one were far more difficult, because of the lack of any precedent for guidance.

Those Letters

WE THINK our little discussion with the *Globe and Mail* has had some results. After the great Toronto snowstorm the local daily (except in bad weather) morning newspaper published a letter from a reader, violently condemning the Transit Controller, an officer of the Dominion Government, for issuing the order restricting the movement of motors during the snowbound period, on the ground that it "should have come from our own Mayor and City Council." To which letter the *Globe and Mail* appended the eminently proper footnote: "The Transit Controller issued the order referred to at the request of civic authorities, who lacked the power to act as they deemed necessary." This is precisely the kind of editorial service to which we think readers are entitled in the case of Letters to the Editor based on a wrong conception of the facts. A similar footnote to the "No conscripts before May" letter would have rendered the whole discussion unnecessary.

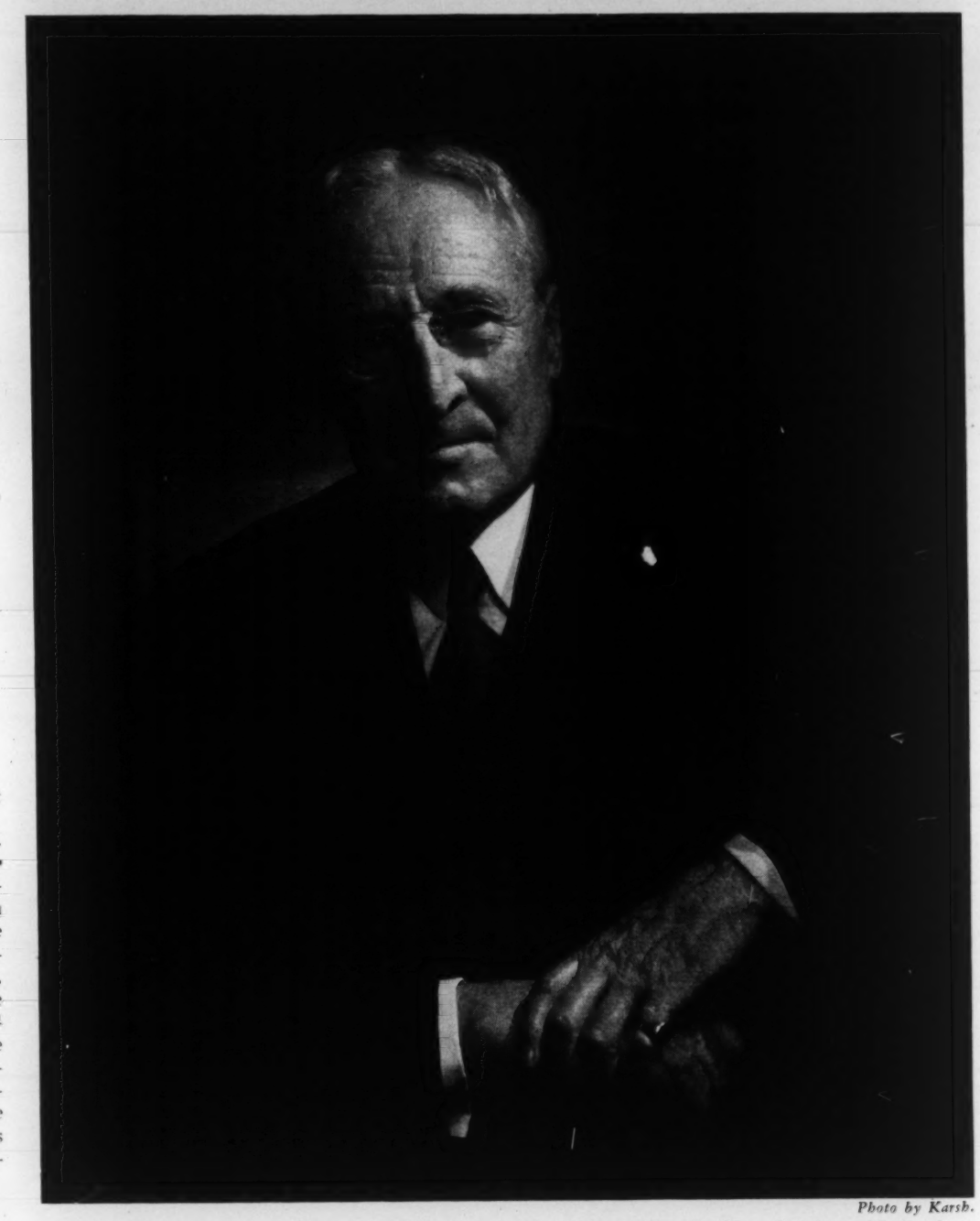


Photo by Karsh.

Concluding a career of long and distinguished public service, the Hon. Leighton McCarthy has retired from the post of Canadian Ambassador to the United States, to which he was appointed in 1941. He is succeeded by Lester B. Pearson, former Canadian Minister to Washington. Mr. McCarthy's retirement for personal and family reasons coincides with his 75th birthday.

The Exterminators

A TORONTO jury last week found Montagu A. Sanderson, a company called Reliable Exterminators Ltd., and the Toronto *Evening Telegram* jointly liable in the sum of one dollar damages to each of sixteen persons for describing them as Communist big shots, Communist rubber stamps and Communist-controlled in an advertisement published on the eve of the municipal elections of 1943. The defence made no attempt to establish the truth of these allegations, and relied upon the claims that the occasion was privileged and that there was absence of malice. Mr. Justice Keiller Mackay ruled that there was qualified privilege, and that the jury must decide about malice; the jury seem to have considered that there was malice but the results of the malicious action were not very important. It appears possible that electioneering methods in Toronto will be slightly healthier as a result of the decision.

The "privilege" accorded to what would otherwise be libellous statements in an election campaign is granted for the sole purpose of making possible the utmost freedom of discussion, and candidates who run for office do so in the knowledge that they expose themselves to the possibility of charges from which in private life they would be protected. It does seem to us, however, that good faith should be a condition of the right to claim this privilege, and for this there seems in the present case to have been no demand whatever, and we assume that the libel law does not call for it.

Mr. Sanderson did not take the stand at all, and he alone had any knowledge of what efforts had been made to ascertain the truth in regard to the allegations made. If those efforts were confined, for example, to inquiring about such things as Professor Grube's school board vote against the purchase of portraits of the King and Queen, about which considerable play was made in the evidence, we should feel that they were somewhat inadequate for a claim of good faith.

The *Telegram*, which deleted several passages from the advertisement when its attention was called to them by the victims, was showing good faith but a little too late; the time to show it was when the copy came in. We await with interest the time when a Labor-Progressive politician who happens to be head of a corporation offers the *Telegram*, on the eve of a provincial general election, an advertisement sponsored by his company, in which it is asserted that Mr. Drew murdered his grandmother, or was in receipt of substantial annual remittances from Mussolini between 1930 and 1939. These allegations appear to us just about as reasonable as those contained in the Sanderson advertisement, yet we feel sure that the *Telegram* would ask the advertiser what inquiry he had made as to their truth.

"Knowledge of the defendant that what he said was untrue would defeat the privilege" is the statement ascribed to Mr. Justice Mackay by the *Telegram*'s report of the proceedings. We suggest that nothing is easier than to avoid having any such knowledge, by avoiding making any inquiry into its truth.

In Our Early Days

ONE of the very few surviving members of the SATURDAY NIGHT organization of more than fifty years ago was taken away last week by a motor fatality. This was John A. Harkins, business manager of the paper for many years and an important factor in its successful establishment. Member of a pioneer Toronto family, he had a long and prosperous career as a newspaper and advertising executive, and retired in 1936. Eighty-one years of age, he retained a vivid memory of old journalistic days in Toronto, and had known intimately almost all the prominent figures of the years around the turn of the century.

The Passing Show

THE Ottawa *Journal* complains that "Mitch" was elected as an Independent and has no right to become a Liberal. That is rubbish; he was elected as an Unpredictable and he is just being an Unpredictable.

•

Obvious slogan for the North Grey election: Andy or Anarchy!

•

Poland is perfectly willing to go West but doesn't want to be pushed.

•

The Rev. T. T. Shields says that he met no friends of Prime Minister King in the West. But then he's very careful about whom he meets.

•

The Windsor *Star* has discovered a municipal politician who has never been beaten and has never had any organization. "I just start in, the day after the election, being decent", he says. Which leaves us still wondering how he got elected in the first place.

•

BAN ON RADIO HORRORS URGED
—Montreal Star headline.

Yes, but a lot of people like Sinatra.

•

Franco has asked for a seat at the peace table. He will be lucky if he doesn't have to crawl under it.

•

Franco's party began as a "youth movement". That's the trouble with youth movements, the movers always get old.

•

"I suggest that whatever action the Under-Secretary of State took would be not only justified but justifiable".—Hon. Mr. McLarty in Hansard, December 6.

No, no, Mr. McLarty. Justified, perhaps, but justifiable never.

•

John the Taxpayer

(With acknowledgements to A. A. Milne)

IAN was a highlander, a great big fellow.
Leonard was a prof. with a million-word tale.
Cyril was a teacher and his voice was mellow.
And John was a very small snail.

Leonard got a job, a real good long one.
Ian made the cabinet, and the view was slick.
Cyril was Chairman (but I think he was the wrong one).
And John sat cold on a brick.

Ian started trumpeting, and roared he was a changer.
Leonard started offering billions for all.
John gave the huffle of a snail in danger,
And nobody heard him at all.

Ian started trumpeting and raised such a rumpus.
Leonard went to UNRRA, and the going was quick.
John went a journey with Cyril's new compass,
And, he reached the end of his brick.

Ian was a highlander and perhaps well-intentioned.
Leonard was a prof. with a brave new tale.
Cyril was a teacher, as I think I have mentioned.
But John was only a snail.

OTTA WAN

•

The *Globe and Mail* did not appear on the day after the great storm. We suggest an amended publication notice: "Published every lawful morning except every awful morning".

•

It might be a good idea to disfranchise the English-speaking voters of Montreal for municipal purposes. The French voters would then no longer have to bother about defeating the man whom the English-speaking voters support.

•

L'Action Catholique has the odd idea that the B.C. army troubles were due to Communists. Whatever one may think about Communists, there has been no indication of their being unwilling to fight for the Allied cause since Russia joined it.

•

The Socialist slogan is: "The Left-winger is always right.

•

Mr. King has been made a life member of the Press Gallery, but we note no disposition on the part of the Prog. Cons. to make him a life member of the House of Commons.

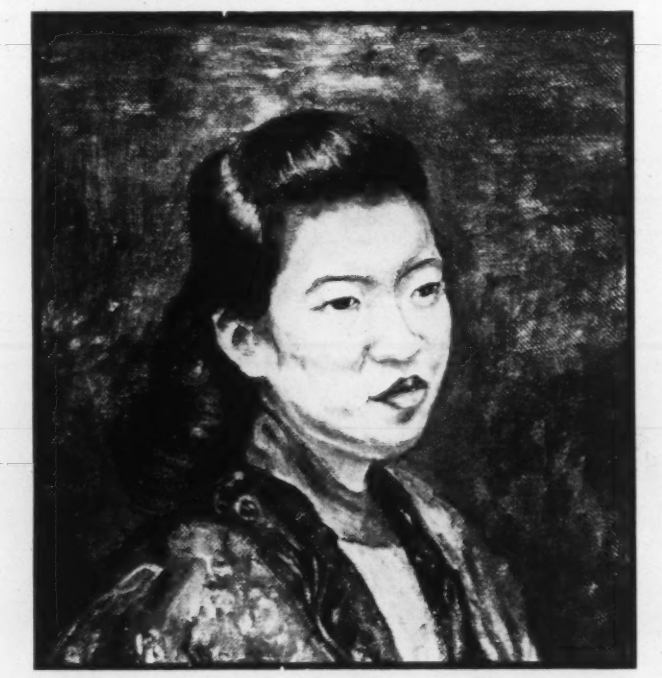
•

Japanese are no longer excluded from the United States Pacific Coast by government order, only by private shotguns.

No Room in Artist's Creed for Racial Prejudice

By Paul Duval

French Canadian Girl, by Kathleen Daly.



Chinese Girl, by John Alfsen.

THE artist can be, and often is, the most effective of all ambassadors of national and international goodwill. He can underline those differences between peoples that are fruitful and should be perpetuated, at the same time as he broadens alien appreciation through his own sympathetic sensibility. Canadian artists are not oblivious to this vital secondary role (their premier role must always be to create distinguished plastic design, regardless of theme) as leaveners of the human mass. They clearly recognize the part that they can play in bringing about a truly Christian understanding among men. They probably realize that the artist, including creators in all media, can sometimes do more to bridge the gaps which separate race from race and nation from nation than a corps of diplomats or an academy of scientists.

For the artist is probably the most sensitive antenna of human life—of the essential emotions and spiritual temper of a people. His report, by the very nature of his method, includes both the subjective and the objective approaches to an intense degree. He absorbs and transforms into a visual or aural or verbal harmony all of those emotions, observations, reflections, and subtle undertones of life which the scientist and factual reporter must miss. He takes longer to record, but also perpetuates longest and most cogently the peculiar life-essence which identifies a specific race or group of people.

Thus, the stolid, thrifty Dutch *burghers* now live for ever transferred to the canvases of a Franz Hals or a De Hooch, and the particular charm of Dutch womanhood will always remain with us in the crisp, mellow pictures of Vermeer of Delft. Just so does a Thutmosis perpetuate for us the spirit of early Egypt or a Brueghel record the raciness and naiveté of sixteenth century Flanders. And it is through the eyes of Mexico's outstanding modern painters that countless numbers of people see the new vitality and critical social awareness which marks the Mexican people today.

On this page are reproduced six portraits, all of Canadians by Canadian artists. They are not great paintings—though they are all quite good ones—but they serve to point up the vital, if not voluble, role that the artist plays in helping to bring about a genuine inter-racial and international understanding. For, though anthropologists and geneticists may write countless worthy volumes explaining away such things as racial bogies, only the artist can bring the human emotive element to bear and reach the sympathies of people where they are most susceptible. A good poem or song or painting can be more generally effective than almost any scientific theory or theological analysis. But when the influences of the scientist and the artist are combined—the one chiefly analyzing, the other harmonizing—we may look forward to a future where we can all repeat, with some truth, "Peace on earth, goodwill to *all* men."

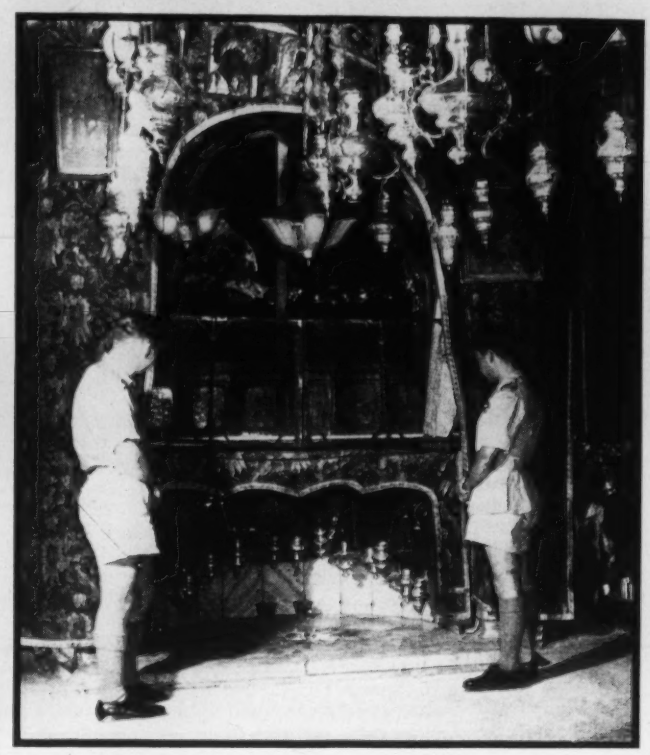
Young Indian Girl, by Yvonne McKague Housser.

Old Jew, by Jack Nichols.

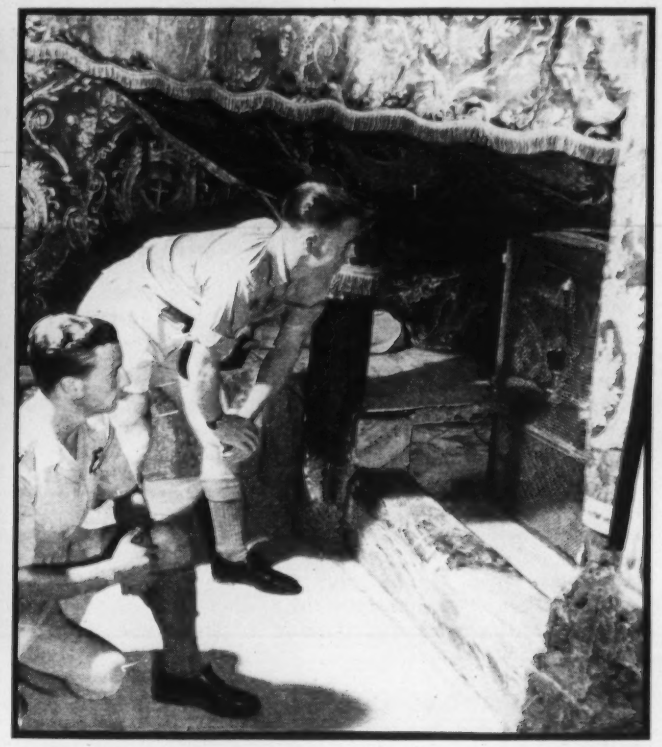
Sketch of Young Negro, by Louis Muhlstock (From Collection of D. Duncan).

The Young Canadian, by Charles Comfort (From Hart House Collection, University of Toronto).

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields . . ." This valley below Bethlehem is known today as the Shepherds' Fields.



Shrine in the grotto of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem—built presumably on the site of the Inn.



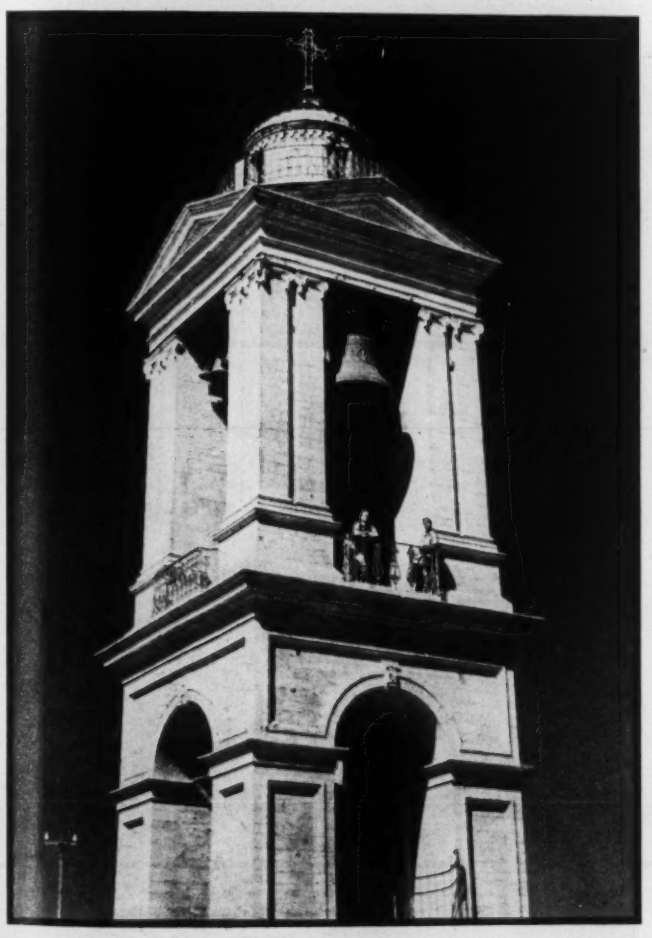
The above shrine commemorates the spot where Jesus was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in the manger.

These Sought the Place

THE ever-vital interest of Christian people all over the world in Palestine, where Christ lived and ministered nearly two thousand years ago, has made that whole land a veritable shrine of Christendom. In the Middle Ages it was the shining goal of devout pilgrims and many lives were sacrificed in Crusades which sought to wrest its Holy Places, particularly Bethlehem and Jerusalem, from the infidel.

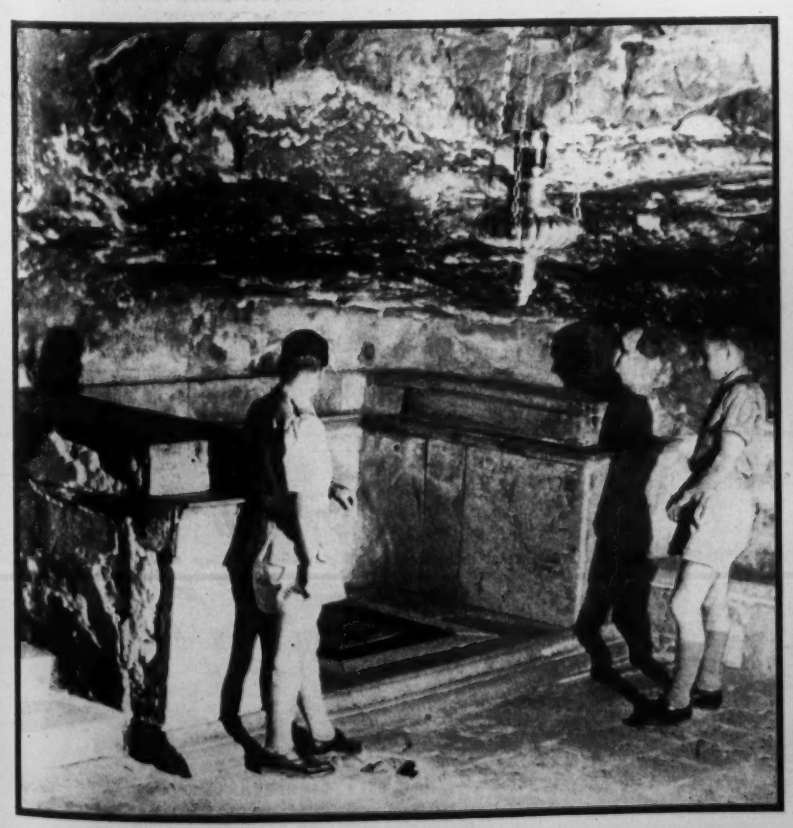
Today the war has given access to Palestine to many thousands of Allied service men stationed in the Middle East or in the Holy Land itself, and they, like the two Royal Canadian Air Force men in our photographs, have welcomed the opportunity to visit these famed shrines, which tradition says, mark the location of many of the important events in the Gospel Story. Jerusalem itself does not exist as it was in Christ's day, for the Temple was destroyed and only a portion of the city wall left standing after the city was practically razed by Titus in 70 A.D. However in 336, Constantine, first Christian emperor, built the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on the site believed by him to be that of the tomb of Christ, and the shrines there were visited by our two R.C.A.F. lads.

Bethlehem, probably because it was a small and unimportant village (today its population is only 6,000) has undergone little change in the intervening centuries. The village is about six miles south of Jerusalem and is situated on a hill in the midst of a green and fertile countryside. Here too Constantine in 330 built a basilica on the traditional place of the Nativity—which is still standing. The manger itself is said to have been in the grotto which is under the church, for tradition says the stable of the inn was really a cave where cattle were sheltered.

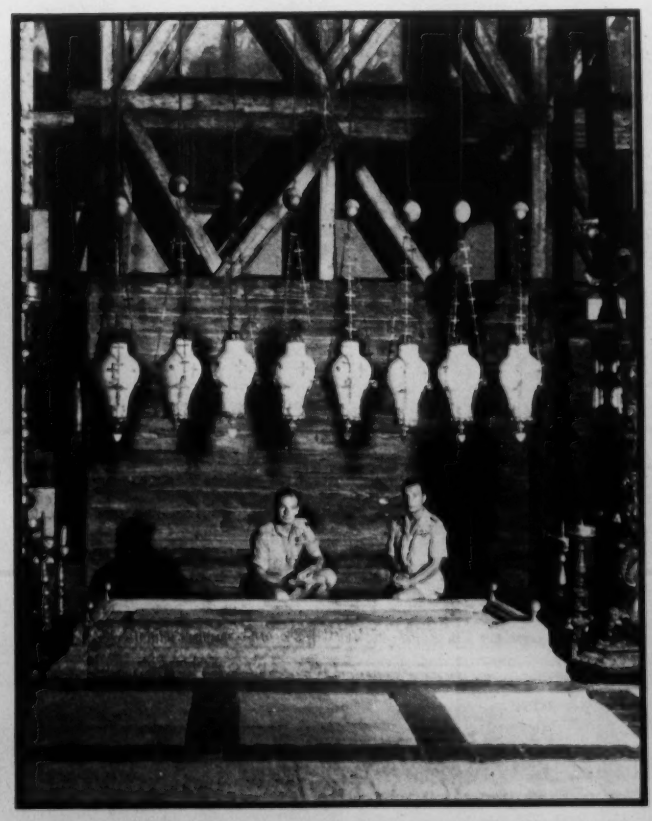


Bells on the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, which are broadcast to the world each year at Christmas time.

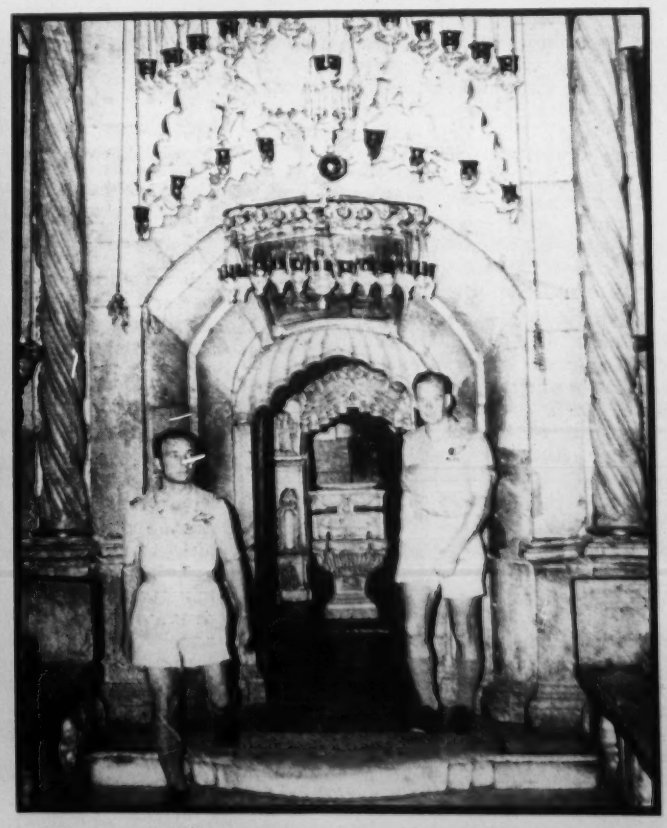
"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life . . . ." An altar in All Nations Church located in the Garden of Gethsemane.



Enclosed well in Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem marks spot where, according to tradition, the Cross of Christ was discovered.



Another shrine is built about the "Stone of Unction", where tradition says Christ's body was anointed after his death.



Goal of devout pilgrims of earlier days is the traditional site of Christ's tomb in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Socialism and Racism A Menace to Unity

By FRANCIS X. CHAUVIN

As a sequence to his article of November 18, in which he reviewed the French Canadian fact in relation to Canadian unity, Mr. Chauvin here discusses Socialism and what he calls "Racism" in the same relation. He sees in both a menace to national unity in Canada.

He regards Socialism as un-Canadian and describes the C.C.F. class appeals as immoral. In his eyes the nationalism of the Bloc Populaire tends to engender what he terms "xenophobia", a malady that "complicates the destiny of the present generation and that of the next".

HAVING discussed, in a previous article (SATURDAY NIGHT, November 18) the relationship of the French Canadian *fact* with the problem of national unity, I deem it appropriate, at this time, to review another aspect of the question, namely: the rise of the philosophy of Socialism and Racism in Canadian politics and its effect on national unity.

There can be no doubt that after the war, nature will want to reclaim its rights. We have lived during these war years with a chain about our neck. Surely once delivered from this nightmare, we will want to orient our lives in another direction. Will it be toward an individualistic (i.e. democratic) conception of society, or toward a new form of compression—Socialism or Fascism?

It has been the experience of all nations that after great upheavals peoples generally accept, sometimes with enthusiasm, almost anything that offers an immediate improvement. It is also true, however, that following such great event as a large-scale war, rapid fermentations occur in men's ideas which breed the most glaring contradictions. It is like a sudden eruption from a broken dike of waters running in every direction, wild and difficult of control. After 1870, France had the Commune. Had it not been for the disciplined mind of General DeGaulle, supported by the wisdom of a Churchill and a Roosevelt, France might have drifted, after the liberation of Paris, into Communism and eventual anarchy.

Canada Has Had Samples

What has happened in France during the past six months is this: Fearful of a possible dictatorship, the French people realized that what best suits the individualism of their Latin character is a liberal regime (a republic), wherein the citizens, forgetting their blind political divisions, place the interests of the nation above those of parties, or groups, or individuals. They realize that a democratic regime is the only one that gives the impression of equality and, in the elaboration of their Fourth Republic, already under way, they are adopting principles which will foster national unity without destroying the national instinct of liberty.

History is full of examples of reformers profiting by international disturbances or national crises to press forward their doctrine, or impose their personality. Think of Napoleon, of Lenin, of Mussolini, of Hitler! And how many more might be cited? Could we not mention, for instance, the fascism of Dollfuss and Schuschnigg in Austria, or the phalangism of Franco in Spain, or the corporativism of Salazar in Portugal?

In Canada, we have been spared the penalty of a dictatorship, but we have not been without political movements and economic agitations. We need go back only twenty-five years to unearth the Agrarianism of Wood, Drury and Crerar, following the First World War. However this agrarian movement was more of the nature of a corrective than of a crusade of a subversive group. There was nothing demagogic or reactionary about it.

Later we witnessed the rise of Socialism under the alphabetical name of the C.C.F. (Cooperative Commonwealth Federation). I propose, later in this article, to examine this party in its relation to Canadian unity, and shall therefore say no more concerning it at this point.

Later again, we saw the flowering in Alberta of Social Creditism, a sort of ham-and-egg crusade seasoned with a dose of religion which does not appear harmful. It has little chance of ever crossing the frontiers of Alberta, so that the future of Canada is not dimmed by its paradoxical proposals.

Finally—and very recently—the old Nationalist Party of Bourassa arose from its smouldering ashes under the name of Bloc Populaire. It contains many of the germs of Racism and thus stands as a menace to Canadian unity. I shall place it under the microscope later.

What is Wrong With Canada?

Now what gives birth to so many new political movements in a country like Canada, which has made fairly remarkable progress as a democracy, under a constitutional government? If, after seventy-seven years of Confederation, we look at ourselves, it seems to me that we shall not discover the picture of a sick or decadent body. In our general behavior we have been successful in steering the ship of state in a normal and safe path, avoiding extremes at all times. We have seen from the start the nature of our destiny, and I do not believe that we have betrayed our mission.

Politically, we have achieved full autonomy, which gives us a status of sovereignty among the nations of the world. Technologically, we have kept pace with the world, and our industrial structure is as solid as that of any nation. Commercially, we stand fourth as an exporting nation on the world markets. Socially, we have adopted humanitarian measures that assure individual security, and we have instituted services that assure material comfort to all. Financially, we are self-sufficient and our credit is proportionally higher than that of any other nation. Economically, we have built an order which permits the maximum of free play for free enterprise, but which establishes controls that bar dishonest greeds and grafts. And, on top of it all, we have maintained a wholesome freedom for all our citizenry, a sort of freedom which, among other things, confirms the inviolability of the right of the voter to throw out any government that he does not consider suitable.

Socialism Won't Fit In

Then, in the face of this record, why these clashes with our traditional Canadian concepts of democracy? Is the two-party system—the most suitable in a democracy—so rigid that it will not admit of any idea that does not conform with its general pattern? The answer is very simple. It is this: Our two-party system is not rigid, but our western democracy was not built on class or racial distinctions and, therefore, it cannot absorb ideologies, originating in Europe, that are a challenge to the fundamentals of our civilization, or that are destructive of the unity which, however fragile it may appear at times, we have been able to maintain.

The Socialism of the C.C.F. is an institution of European origin, whose dream of an international brotherhood is outworn and whose formulas mean the eventual and complete destruction of the essential principles upon which our democracy rests.

Not all that emanates from Europe is unacceptable to us. Our forefathers came from the Old World, but they brought to the New World life and light, not destruction and darkness. From the Old World also came the treasures of the French and English cultures. These treasures have been carefully guarded, as were the treasure and essence of all human cultures. Out of this fund of tradition and knowledge has grown a western constitutional democracy wherein man has learned to be Christian and human, free and tolerant. This democracy Canada proposes to preserve, and develop as a western institution.

But from the Old World also came strange philosophies born of organisms that are, by nature, despotic. One of them is the materialistic philosophy of Socialism with its original slogan "Property is Theft", camouflaged here under the name of "planned economy". This totalitarian doctrine Canada and all the western democracies reject as extraneous, and as destructive of all the hopes of an evolutionary and creative civilization.

The spirit and goal of democracy is to make food and shelter as accessible to all as water, or the use of roads, or the benefit of public services now to be found in all areas of advanced civilization. This kind of democracy we have in Canada, and it is the outcome of an earnest and toilsome historical process. And its development has been in conformity with nature. So that, in this year of 1945, we can say that there exists, in Canada, a just balance between the

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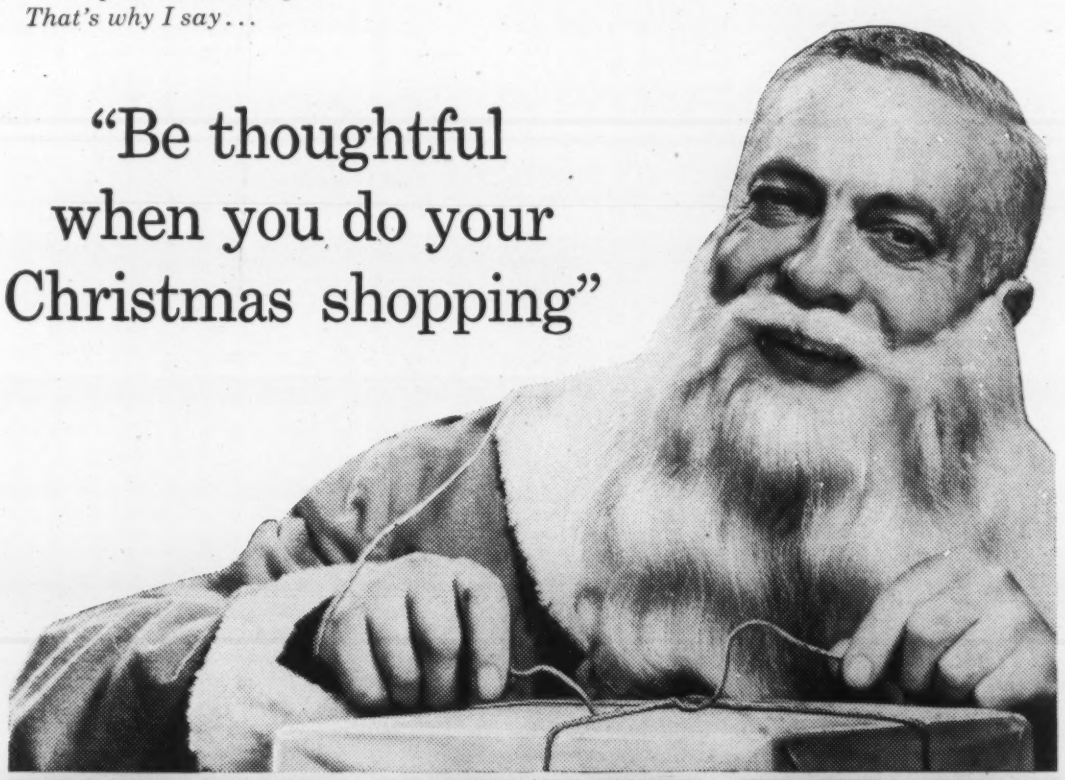

IN ALL DEPARTMENTS this year, store people are meeting problems of personnel, supply and delivery, taking care of the holiday rush, and working hard to make your Christmas shopping successful.

HELP THEM ALL YOU CAN, WON'T YOU? Buy at less busy hours. Carry home as many purchases as possible. Make a detailed shopping list to save time at the counters. Shop early and shop patiently.

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For months, store people have been working to make Christmas shopping easy and pleasant.

Let's help them all we can by being *thoughtful*—by shopping early and shopping patiently.

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principle of freedom and the principle of justice.

This democracy the Socialist C.C.F. excommunicates and would destroy, and replace it by a sort of collectivism which is un-Canadian, and which has all the implications of totalitarianism. It is today trying to discredit democracy with posters and slogans, but tomorrow it would wipe it out by confiscation and exploitation. Speaking in Windsor, December 8, 1944, Bert E. Leavens, M.L.A. for Woodbine-Toronto, and C.C.F. secretary for Ontario, gave the following warning, as reported in the Windsor *Daily Star* of December 9:

"We as a party have become respectable . . . Some speakers hesitate to use the word 'Socialism'. I don't. I'm a Socialist. I think we should be frank and honest now. We intend to take over the banks, insurance companies, processing plants, natural resources, the securing and distributing of wealth. Tell them you are a Socialist, and what we intend to do."

C.C.F. European Philosophy

There is nothing in the C.C.F. philosophy and program that was born in Canada. The C.C.F. policy is a scheme of European social philosophers, whose ambition was to bridge the gap between economic freedom and economic justice by destroying the one and regulating the other. The result? Fascism and Nazism. The economy of our Canadian democracy aims at reconciling these two fundamental principles (freedom and justice) in both the spheres of production and consumption, thus bringing about an age in which neither the individual's rights emerge into anarchy nor his duties submerge him in slavery. Socialism has no place in an economy of that kind.

Canada also rejects the Socialism of the C.C.F. because of the immorality of its appeal to "class warfare". This appeal necessarily *disunites*, and in a day when *unity* is the goal sought, preaching in terms of categories is a menace to the country.

We achieve unity only by the observance of such standards in national relations as will bring a genuine collaboration of what is best in the Worker, with what is best in the Farmer, in the Industrialist, in the Banker, and in all the other classes of Canadian society. We cannot have unity if groups have no respect for one another. The class appeals of the C.C.F. would be a calamity at any time; they are a catastrophe at this time.

Racism

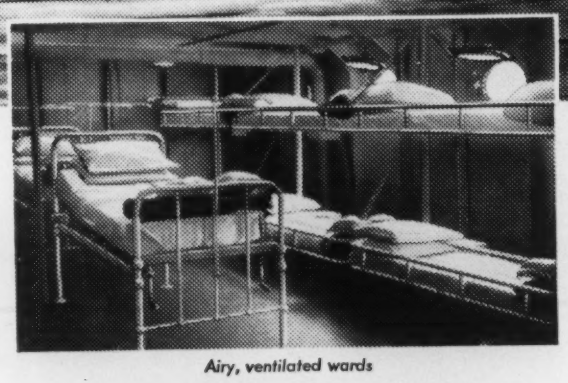
Another danger for national unity in Canada is the form of nationalism that has raised its head in the Province of Quebec. I would call it, for want of a really precise term, Racism.

The trouble with Racism, whether in a Confederation like Canada or in a country like Germany, is that it is unable to gauge the forces that are opposed to it. In Canada, we have what is known as the "diversity factor". But the fact that the Canadian people are not united by blood is not peculiar to us. The United States is a melting-pot of peoples of several racial origins, yet few people are more conscious of being a nation than the Americans. The American nation is a *united* nation.

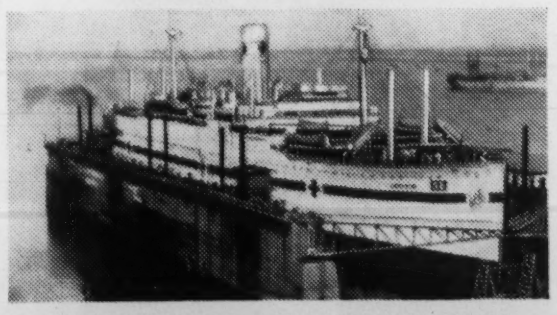
What makes Racism a force of destruction is that it fosters an inclination to distrust the other elements of the nation. It engenders what may be described as xenophobia, a kind of dislike for the "stranger". In Quebec, the nationalism of the Bloc Populaire has practically reached that stage when it may be regarded as "racism". It is that "racial nationalism" which Senator Bouchard—who is a semi-alarmist—denounces with such vehemence.

It is true that the Bloc Populaire represents only a minority. Yet in the last provincial elections, it received a popular vote of approximately 200,000. Moreover, the recent political crisis over the sending of draftees overseas has immensely increased its strength, so that it is now a force which gravely menaces national unity in Canada, and which complicates the destiny of the present generation and that of the next.

THE STORY OF THE "LETITIA" IS THE STORY OF THE WAR


Airy, ventilated wards

Modernly equipped operating rooms


The "Letitia" in Vickers' great 25,000-ton floating drydock

• When the gleaming white Canadian hospital ship "Letitia" steamed away from Canadian Vickers in November 1944, her fighting days were over and she started on her *third* role in this war. This was her second time in Vickers' shipyards. Five years ago, in September 1939, Vickers first converted her from a peace-time Atlantic passenger ship into an armed merchantman, and up to the Spring of 1944, she had been in the thick of the fighting . . . first as a speedy convoy patrol and later as a transport.

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THE OTTAWA LETTER

One Minister Was Not Unwilling To Try On Mr. King's Mantle

By G. C. WHITTAKER

ALL is quiet along the Ottawa. The peace of the Yuletide has settled on the home front. In all the land, almost it would seem, is no distinction between Cain and Abel. Jean Baptiste and Johnny Canuck, in the short light of the season, merge and are one. From the nation's Tower of Memory on Parliament Hill the notes of the bells are carried over the snow-clad countryside.

They are heard by a man listening contentedly at distant Kingsmere. To him they come as the echo of fulfilment. Twenty years ago he heard them, and interpreted them between the covers of a book, "The Message of the Carillon". It was quite the opposite of a Canadian "Mein Kampf". Today no storm-troopers guard *his berghof*. Jolly Canadian skiers pass his door with *Bon Jour* and Merry Christmas.

It might have been otherwise this Christmas season had Mr. King not been as true to his book as Herr Hitler to his. It was indeed a close call from being otherwise. Now that the autumnal gales are safely past it is becoming more fully revealed how close it was. Neither Mr. King nor Colonel Ralston, it seems, gave us a wholly complete or entirely uncolored version of the fateful happenings within the thick walls of the East Block during those October and November days when so much lay in the balance.

Not So Unanimous

Perhaps some variation in recollections of words that are unrecorded is inevitable. At any rate it has come to be whispered in the halls of state that the answer Mr. King received to the inquiry he addressed to his colleagues as to whether any would be prepared to accept his mantle and attempt to form a government which would put full conscription in force was not quite as unanimously negative as he gave us to understand. One there was, it is being said on the stairways with an air of definite knowledge that disarms the doubter, who made reply to the Prime Minister's suggestion of abdication in his favor that this was something he "would have to consider".

This was not, of course, an acceptance of an implied offer of the purple. Neither was it a refusal. But, checking back we find, as might have been expected, that Mr. King did not say that all to whom he addressed the suggestion rejected it. He reported only that he made it to one after the other and that when he came to Colonel Ralston he declined it.

The inference that all had declined is quite different, in the circumstances, from the true inference that none had accepted. But Mr. King presumably took care that there should be no difference in the effect by refraining from raising the question again, by suppressing whatever curiosity he may have had as to the result of the consideration which the one minister felt he had to give to it.

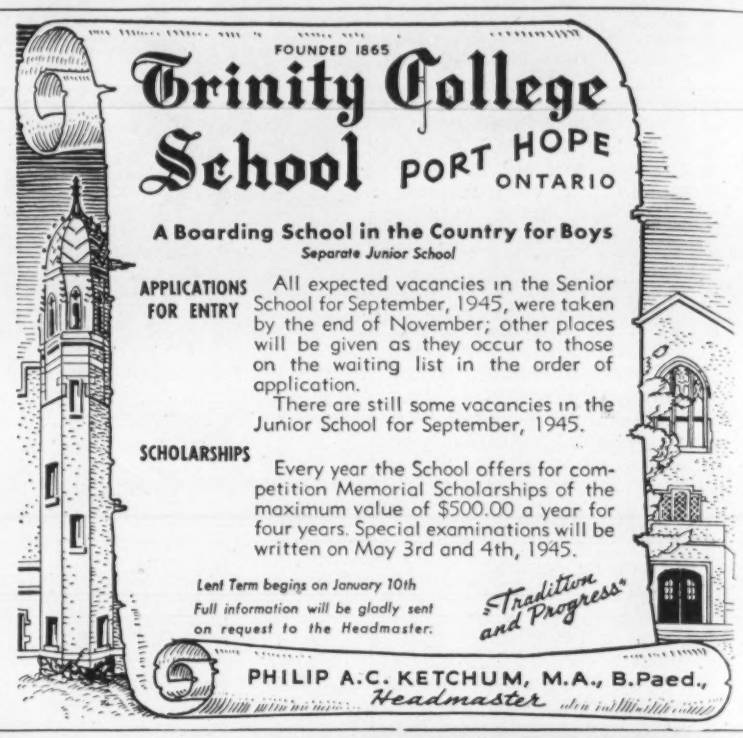
Intended Liberal Government

The minister who is now reported to have admitted to Mr. King that his mind was by no means closed to the idea of his becoming Prime Minister and attempting to construct a government that would introduce full conscription happens to be one whom we nominated as a likely heir to the thorny crown before the day of miracles returned and it seemed that the particular cake on the Prime Minister's plate was of a kind that not even he could have it and eat it too. It is also a coincidence that, as we indicated at the time and as his friends now confirm, had the Prime Minister been persistent (which few think he had any intention of being) to the point where he would have had to resolve his consideration of the proposal in the affirmative, the government this minister would have tried to form would not necessarily have been a bi-party or a multi-party one. He might have had to come to one or the other, but at the outset would have attempted to keep the affair in the family.

There would, naturally, have been some faces new to the ministerial stage, and some might have been of as undetermined a party complexion as General McNaughton's was a month ago. And perhaps you will forgive us for all this fishing in water that is already over the dam when we tell you that among the latter would very probably have been the face of an old friend of yours. There was more than a chance that in the ministry-that-might-have-been one of the top portfolios would have turned up in the strong hands of the justly famous Donald Gordon.

We mention this provocative contingency now by way of calling your attention, not to milk that has been spilled, but rather to milk that is still in the bottle. Cabinets that were not made yesterday may be made tomorrow. Nemesis may fail to overtake the Prime Minister but time will not. It is, we submit, an engaging thought for this merry season that the man who has been bossing us around for three years in a way that makes them seem, in retrospect, like thirty may be giving us a chance, one of these days, to talk back—through the ballot. We hope sincerely that he manages to fix up the stocking supply before it is too late. Promising careers have been wrecked on many seemingly irrelevant rocks. It would be more than a pity if chapped and glamorless legs should acquire potency in our public life.

The new year will not be with us long before we are hearing echoes of the late excitement from North Grey. It is well perhaps that they should be heard as soon as possible. So much opinion is being offered as to how the country feels that it can do no harm and may do some good to have a little proof. And North Grey would seem about as good a place as any in which to look for it. It has fluctuated coquettishly with its favors over the years between the two old parties. In the general elec-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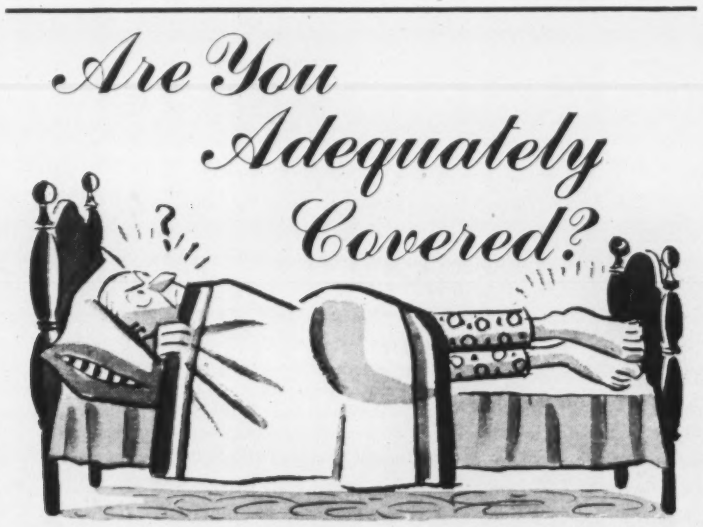

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tions of 1940 the fourteen thousand odd voters divided almost evenly between the government candidate and his opponents, the government winning mainly through division of the opposition vote.

Of course, as is being pointed out, the party in power has advantages in a by-election. It can concentrate the many favors it has at its disposal on a single constituency. But if public sentiment is as dissatisfied with the course of the government on reinforcements as is being widely suggested it should surely, within two months of the event, be impervious to other considerations.

If it isn't what will it be in the general elections next spring or summer? And if the anti-government vote should be divided between candidates of two opposition parties to give General McNaughton the seat by a minority vote, would it not be a forerunner of how the dissatisfied sentiment would be likely to express itself in a general election?

Bracken Wise

It is well for the test, as we see it, that Mr. Bracken has seen fit to reject the proposal reported to have been strongly urged on him by some of his headquarters advisers that he offer himself as the candidate of dissatisfied sentiment in North Grey. Well perhaps for Mr. Bracken too, but particularly well for the cause of clarification. One matter about which Mr. King may properly be held to have been wrong, regardless of how right or wrong he was on other matters, was the question of the October-November demand for the imposition of compulsion on the home defence forces in the reinforcements emergency being political or non-political.

Many people who were able to appreciate the difficulty he was in were disposed to challenge his claim that it was political—a claim that was made even more defiantly by some of his cabinet colleagues. If, as we have held, the demand was non-political, and if, as critics of the government's course claim, it has been widely carried over into non-partisan dissatisfaction with that course, it can be more truly expressed through the medium of an ordinary candidate than through a party leader who has other issues to settle with the government beyond its course on reinforcements. Mr. Bracken's participation as a candidate would only have confused the issue which, in the public interest, should be settled as far as it can be settled by the North Grey by-elecion.

Mr. Bracken's strategists were, we think, characteristically maladroit in proposing that he try to capitalize partisanly what they believe to be public sentiment in North Grey. His success or failure might have been no true indication of his strength in the country.

• •

Britain Plans Air Wonders

By FRANK S. STUART

British Designers have been busy with radical developments in aircraft. Mr. Stuart tells about some of the things that may be expected in the postwar.

London.

RECENTLY, a biplane took off from Squire's Gate aerodrome, Blackpool, accompanied by a Lockheed Hudson which contained famous research specialists from the Royal Aircraft Establishment. When the biplane was flying at 4,500 ft., the upper wing was released and floated to earth on its own. The aircraft continued its way as a monoplane.

The experts were watching an experiment that may have a considerable bearing on tomorrow's civil flying. This new "slipwing" machine, with its doubled wing area, can take off with a far heavier load of freight and petrol than is possible normally. The abandonment of the extra wing in mid-air gives the aircraft monoplane speed and usefulness.

Britain has suffered much from pilotless "flying bombs" in recent months. But after the war, even this invention will be put to a useful purpose. Already, British experimental aircraft have been launched with incredibly short take-off runs by rocket assistance. It is probable that, within a few years, air-mail will travel in pilotless, radio-guided aircraft.

Not many people outside the aircraft industry know anything of the important experiments going on with turbine engines for vast air freighters. Hundred-ton gas-turbine driven freighters are already common talk among famous designers. Sir Roy Fedden has spoken of such a freighter, with gas turbines driving contra-rotating propellers inside a "flying wing."

Five Times Flying Fortress

The comparative size of such a freighter may be gathered by the fact that it would be about five times as heavy as a Flying Fortress.

Another type of power unit that may develop in the near future is the barrel engine. The biggest aero engine now in use is slightly over 2,000 h.p. But experts talk of a barrel enine of 5,000 h.p. with a frontal area of only 7 sq. ft. It will have a weight of about half a pound per horse-power instead of the pound per horse-power usual at present.

British barrel engines have been developed and tested. William B. Stout, the famous American designer, talks of a barrel engine of "100 h.p., 100 lb., 100 dollars."

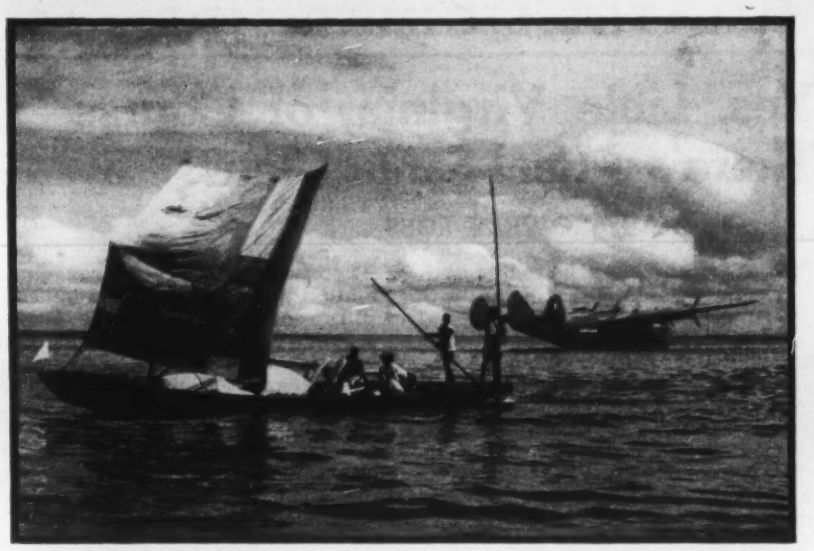
Britain leads in the investigations into "flying wing" aircraft. These machines are simply immense wings, with engines, cargo and crew space entirely enclosed.

I have seen designs of a proposed air freighter of this type which a famous British company may build. It has a 2,000-mile range, with space for twelve passengers and about 20,000 lb. of freight.

It is driven by six 2,500-h.p. motors, at a top speed of over 300 m.p.h. Loading trucks can approach up a ramp and drive right inside the "flying wing" for loading and unloading.

Aircraft are being tested which have a single motor right out on one wing. Designers are also trying out reversible propellers, which can turn the opposite way in landing so as to act as brakes.

Many of these things were laughed at as freaks yesterday. Tomorrow they will be commonplace.



The outstations of British Overseas Airways Corporation along the British air routes, which have been kept open throughout the war are sometimes scattered in the most desolate and remote places. At her moorings in the lagoon at Iquio airport in Lagos, Nigeria, is this Boeing flying boat, purchased in the United States. These former commercial planes now carry only passengers and freight vital to the war effort. Ground staff in charge is British, but local labor is widely employed.

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THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Yes, Little Virginia, of Course There's a Real Santa Claus!

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

FOR years the store had employed the same Santa Claus in the Toy Department. Then just at the opening of the Christmas season he contracted double pneumonia and Mr. Jameson, the head of the employment service, was glad to hire the first applicant who turned up for the job.

The newcomer, a Mr. S. H. Fordyce, was round and spry, rosy and twinkling; and from the very first day he had been an overwhelming success on the toy floor. There was no perfunctory jollity about the new Santa Claus. Jollity was his spiritual essence, he was fairly incandescent with it from morning till night. The children crowded in to see him and could scarcely be dragged away from the magical presence. On Saturdays they brought their lunch and stayed all day. There had never been such a popular Santa Claus in the history of the store.

There was a touch of extravagance about all this that made Mr. Jameson a little uneasy. And by the end of the first week his fears were justified. Mr. Fordyce, it seemed, was taking his impersonation literally, the role having gone completely to his head. Angry mail from the customers began to pile up on Mr. Jameson's desk, while out in the Toy Department Santa Claus, the universal dispenser, was recklessly committing the store's clientele to joycycles, electric trains, roller skates with ball bearings, and dolls with real hair.

SOMETHING would have to be done about it, Mr. Jameson realized; and ringing his bell he ordered his secretary to tell Mr. Fordyce to report at the office. "Just a minute, I think he's just come off the floor," she said, and disappeared. In a few minutes Mr. Jameson, still absorbed in his indignant correspondence, heard a merry chuckle and looked up a little startled to find Mr. Fordyce standing on the other side of his desk.

His visitor sat down without invitation and began fanning himself with his whiskers. "Hot as hell's hinges in here," he said, "Don't see how you stand it."

Mr. Jameson's lips tightened. "You're fired!" was what he longed to say, but unfortunately that handy formula had passed out of usage some years ago. He knew he couldn't replace Mr. Fordyce and the knowledge made him more exasperated than ever. He said sharply, "It seems that you have been embarrassing our customers by promising the children all sorts of pre-war goods—joycycles, typewriters, metal scooters—"

"Only conditionally," Mr. Fordyce said, raising his forefinger. "These promises don't apply to children who won't wash their hands, for instance, or children who steal the teacher's chalk to write smutty things on the sidewalk."

Mr. Jameson stared, then recovered himself. "Please try to realize that promises of any sort are costing us the goodwill of our clientele," he said sharply.

"It wouldn't be any use," Mr. Fordyce said. "Explanations aren't my department; and I can see that the inexplicable isn't yours. . . No, I'm afraid you'll just have to take my word for it that any orders that have been taken will be carried out as specified."

MR. JAMESON considered. The man was obviously a lunatic. At the same time his delusion was a comparatively harmless one if it could be kept within reason. He said after a moment, "Look, I'm ready to meet you half-way. It's all right for you to make promises as long as you stick to, say, plastics or good cardboard substitute."

Mr. Fordyce shook his head. "You can't fool kids with that stuff. Take the case of your own little girl, Bernice. What Bernice wants for Christmas is a doll carriage with a cream body, wire wheels and rubber tires. Matter of fact, you've got her order right there in your upper inside pocket."

Mr. Jameson stared, a little startled. Only that morning Bernice had given him her letter to Santa Claus to post. It was still in his pocket and Mr. Fordyce had read its contents exactly. "Now look here—" he began, but Mr. Fordyce went on placidly. "Or take your boy Whitney. Do you think he's going to be satisfied with some cheap cardboard assembly job when what he wants is a two-wheeled bicycle? You don't need to tell me; you've got his order in your pocket too right alongside Bernice's."

Mr. Jameson half-rose. "Now listen, you leave my family out of this!" he said.

"Now don't get excited," Mr. Fordyce said, "They'll get what they asked for all right. There may be a little difficulty but I'll see the deliveries go through on time." He got up. "There are just two things the matter with you, Mr. Jameson," he said. "Too little faith and too much steam-heating." He loosened his tunic, then going over to the window flung it open to its height. "That's better, ha, ha!" he cried.

The cold North air rushed in and the room was suddenly filled with dancing papers and Mr. Fordyce's boisterous laughter. It was too much for Mr. Jameson. He hurried over and slammed down the window. "You're fired!" he said, and bending down began to gather up the scattered correspondence.

When he looked up Mr. Fordyce had vanished. The next moment however the knobbed rosy face and fine spate of whiskers appeared about the edge of the doorway. "Try to get yourself another Santa Claus!" he said. "See if you can make one out of plastic and a good cardboard substitute," and vanished, this time for good.

ON CHRISTMAS morning Mr. Jameson came down to find a two-wheel bicycle leaning against the mantel-piece and a cream-colored doll carriage with unmistakable wire wheels nestling under the boughs of the Christmas tree.

"I didn't tell you because I wanted it to be a surprise," Mrs. Jameson said, "Isn't it wonderful!"

He pulled her out into the hall-way. "Just where did you get that stuff?" he demanded.

"Why there's nothing to get excited about," Mrs. Jameson said. "Aunt Ede had the doll carriage in her attic and she said it just suddenly occurred to her that all it needed was re-lining and re-painting. . . I got the bicycle out of the Classified Ads. I happened to glance through two nights ago, and there it was. In black type, I couldn't miss it. Isn't it marvellous? It almost makes you believe in Santa Claus."

She went back to the Christmas tree, and Mr. Jameson followed her. "Well thank God neither of them asked for a live pony," he said.

Mrs. Jameson, diving into the Christmas tree, brought up a small package. "Why where did that come from?" she said puzzled, "I didn't see it there last night. It's for you, dear."

"It's from Santa Claus!" said Bernice and Whitney.

Mr. Jameson opened it reluctantly, but it was nothing after all but a small package of cigars.

"Why how nice!" Mrs. Jameson said, "Why don't you try one, dear?"

"Too early in the morning," Mr. Jameson said.

A little later when everyone else had left the living-room he threw the cigars in the fire-place. And just as he had expected they went off with a merry pop and a cloud of smoke whisked prankishly up the chimney.

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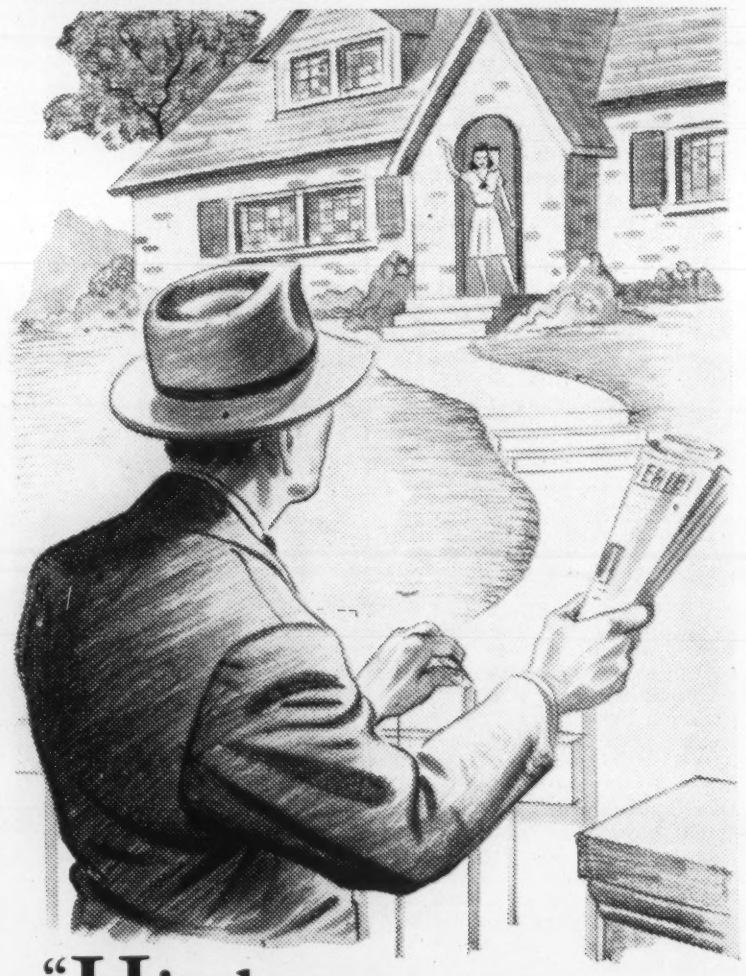
CANADA'S WAY OF LIFE . . . No. 3



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IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA

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Soon There Won't Be Any More Rich Men

By THE VERY REV. W. R. INGE

Dean Inge believes that we are going through one of the most drastic social revolutions in history and that Britain is seeing the end of the county-magnate-with-many-servants type of life. He doesn't see much that is bad in the change except possibly some loss in scientific and other research.

Wallingford, England.

MY FRIENDS belong chiefly to my own walk of life, those to whom Providence has granted the prayer of Agur in the Book of Proverbs, "Give me neither poverty nor riches." But I occasionally meet men who used to be very wealthy.

One of them said to me, "After this war there will be no rich men either here or in America." Another said, "They call me a millionaire. They have left me just enough to pay my rent; I can't afford hotels." There are said to be 70 or 80 men here who have £6000 a year to spend—not a very large income at present prices.

This represents one of the most drastic social revolutions in history. The French revolution put the middle-class in power; Berdydeff says that Russia is becoming a bourgeois society for the first time. But there will be no more rich in England.

There are three ways in which a government may repudiate its obligations. It may say bluntly, "We won't pay." It may print banknotes. Or it may confiscate the larger loans by death duties. Necessity knows no law, and the victims accept their fate with resignation.

Without discussing the justice of expropriation, euphemistically called redistribution, what will be the social consequences of the revolution?

The old country house life is gone for ever. We may feel sorry for the old families who have to leave the beautiful homes where they have lived for centuries. But the county magnate, who used to rule over his ancestral acres, has no longer any function to perform.

How Good Aristocracy?

We are sometimes told that we had the best aristocracy in history. Professor Trevelyan says:

"Perhaps no set of men and women ever enjoyed so many sides of life, with so much zest, as the English upper class under George III. The literary, the sporting, the fashionable and the political sets were one and the same."

But they were a boozy, gluttonous, gambling, wenching, duelling lot; there is not much to be said for them. They illustrate Lord Acton's dictum: "Power always corrupts; absolute power corrupts absolutely."

In Queen Victoria's reign they were respectable enough. Institutions, like individuals, reform when they hear the verdict: "Set thy house in order, for thou shalt die and not live." Trevelyan regretfully says of this period: "The world is not likely to see so fine and broad a culture for centuries to come." "The world was friendly and well-bred as I remember it," wrote Lord Tweedsmuir, "without vulgarity and the worship of wealth." Periods of transition are good to live in but they never last long.

The younger generation in the upper class do not want to live as men of leisure in overgrown palaces; like those which were built after the Napoleonic war—places like Westonbirt and Ashridge. They know that feudalism is dead at last; it is not only taxation that is emptying the great houses. Fred Benson's book As We Are gives an excellent picture of the pathetic but inevitable downfall of a great nobleman's home.

Will the change be bad for science, scholarship and literature? England has been the land of gifted amateurs. Unlike Germany, our great men have been not university professors but "private gentlemen" of independent means like Darwin, Galton, Lord Rayleigh, Gibbon, Grote, Lord Acton, Macaulay, Milton, Browning, Ruskin.

I think there will be some loss especially in history. Historians, from Thucydides the mine-owner to Grote the banker, have almost always been well off. But the famous professors in pre-industrial Germany were content with very small incomes—and not professors only lived simply.

Lord Frederic Hamilton records that he dined with the Crown Prince Frederick and his wife, on curds and whey, a mutton chop, and rice pudding. The brains of Scotsmen have been nourished with oatmeal.

The absence of servants may be prejudicial to upper and middle class women by allowing them very little time either to improve their minds or to look after their children. On the first, Trevelyan says that in the last century the upper class woman was being devitalized and cut off from life and its interests, as the result of increasing wealth and more artificial conditions. In the old manor house the ladies had their allotted tasks. "But now it became the hallmark of a lady to be idle." We shall therefore, be going back to an earlier and perhaps healthier state of society.

The care and teaching of children, without nurse or governess, will no doubt be a serious problem. Some people fear what they call race-suicide in the best endowed classes of the community. Dysgenic selection is really a danger: but I do not think that the professional classes will restrict their families more than they do at present.

Among the chief motives for desiring a small family have been the great expense of public school education and the necessity of providing suitably for the daughters. These motives may not operate so strongly in the future. It is not the poor but the privileged classes who tend to die out.

As a Christian I do not think that luxurious living is good for anybody. And shall we not be well rid of footmen, valets, and ladies' maids? Is this a worthy life for an able-bodied man or woman?

I am sorry for the removal of the old landmarks, but I do not think that Dives will be much missed, and what is happening may be good for his soul's health.

More Widely Quoted

SATURDAY NIGHT is quoted or referred to by editors and newspapers and other periodicals in Canada on more occasions per issue than is any daily newspaper or any other periodical of general appeal in Canada.

On Earth Peace to Men of Good Will

With the advent of Christmas this year,
these words hold for us an added significance:
"Peace to men of good will!"

WE Canadians, whether we fight in the factory or on the farm—in industry or in the armed services, wish peace on earth to men of good will the world over. We are fighting that the spirit of Christmas shall endure. And we rejoice that this Christmas brings with it the definite promise of freedom for all mankind.

THE HOUSE OF SEAGRAM

THE HITLER WAR

Power Politics And Principles Test Allied Unity in Poland

By WILLSON WOODSIDE

THE Polish question has been debated with increasing bitterness for the past three years, and now the lid has blown clean off it. It is proving to be, as I have asserted unremitting in these articles, the chief test case for Allied unity in war and peace, and for a just and wise settlement in Europe.

Following on Mr. Churchill's outright espousal of the Soviet claim for Eastern Poland and proposal for compensation at Germany's expense, there have been a number of interesting and valuable revelations of the deal which Soviet power politics has forced on Britain in the face of a passive American policy, and many violent denunciations from British and American sources of this abandonment of the principles set forth in the Atlantic Charter, and warnings that present Soviet-British policies in Poland and the Balkans are sowing dragon's teeth which will result in another war.

There are two basic points in this matter, one, the absolute insistence of Marshal Stalin that the Polish boundary and concession of a Russian sphere of influence in the Balkans be settled according to Russia's unilateral demands as the price of her continued help against Germany; and two, the question of the justice and wisdom of this procedure, and its effect on future peace.

The only possible way to treat this question, it seems to me, is to review briefly its whole development. Obviously we cannot go back into the centuries of dynastic politics, with their disputes and their changing Russo-Polish frontier. It will be more practical to begin the tale in modern times, when self-determination of peoples became the accepted standard.

Let us therefore start with the Treaty of Riga, which drew the present Polish-Russian frontier in 1919. It is commonly said that the Allies laid down the Curzon Line as Poland's frontier at the Peace Conference, and that the Poles "grabbed" the eastern territories beyond that from a prostrate and unwilling Russia.

The true facts have been set down by a man preeminently qualified to deal with them, a man who worked in Russia for the Allied cause in 1914-18, was a leading Polish representative at the peace conferences with the Soviets at Minsk in 1919, Riga in 1920-21, and was with Mikolajcyzk in his negotiations with Stalin this October. He has never believed that permanent Russo-German collaboration was possible, has always urged Polish-Russian reconciliation, opposed Pilsudski's campaign against Kiev, and was much criticized at home for not demanding more territory at Riga when the military situation was so favorable to the Poles. He is Professor Stanislaw Grabski, praised by Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons the other day.

Origin of Curzon Line

The Curzon Line was laid down by an Allied Committee in 1920 as a line defining the territory which was *indisputably Polish*, and proposed in July 1920 as a line along which an armistice might be arranged between the advancing Red Army, and the Poles standing with their backs to Warsaw. "The rights which Poland might establish over the territories to the east of the line" which were in dispute between Poland and Russia, were "expressly reserved."

The reply of the Soviet Government, signed by Lenin, Trotsky and Chicherin, was that "the real frontier which Soviet Russia will establish with the representatives of the Polish people will be to the east of the frontier marked out by the imperialists in London and Paris."

And at the peace conference convened at Minsk in August 1920, when the Red Army advance was at its height, the Soviets offered a frontier more favorable than the Curzon Line, though they stipulated other terms obviously intended to make Poland a Soviet vassal.

Even while these terms were being handed out to a Polish delegation practically kept prisoner in a guarded villa, the tide of war turned decisively, the Poles learning this over their private radio, almost constantly "jammed" by the Soviets. They asked for time to consider, upon which General Tukhachevsky, the Soviet Commander-in-Chief (is the name familiar?) posted in Minsk a proclamation that "the Polish delegation, composed exclusively of spies and counter-espionage agents, is attempting to utilize its position for purposes of espionage."

Truly there is nothing new in Soviet diplomacy. The identical accusation of "espionage" was laid against the Polish representatives in Russia when the Kremlin chose to break relations in 1943. And official Polish government members are blackened in the same way today as they were in 1920.

The negotiations were moved to the neutral surroundings of Riga. Here the boundary line which is Poland's present legal frontier was agreed upon. Actually, it ran over 50 miles west of a line which had been offered by the Soviets in January 1920; the Polish Diet expressed its desire to have a free plebiscite taken in the debated regions; and when it was signed the Soviet representative, Joffe, acclaimed it as giving "full satisfaction to the vital, *legitimate* and *necessary* interests of the Polish nation."

These are, briefly, the facts of the establishment of the present Polish-Russian frontier. It lies far to the west of the Polish frontier before the partitions—which were repudiated by the Soviet Government in 1918.

Next to consider the justness of this border, with regard to the desires of the population concerned. Nationalism was largely undeveloped among the White Russians in the territory under dispute, and their attachment to Polish or Russian civilization depended almost entirely on whether they were Catholic or Orthodox. A large majority of the population in the north-eastern corner of Poland, around Vilna, is Catholic.

Catholic and Orthodox

The same criterion was mainly followed in determining the border in the Polish-Ukrainian section, east of Lwow. Though there were old and strong Polish communities extending through the Ukraine to Kiev, the inclusion of these would have meant bringing along a large Orthodox Ukrainian population, and it was Grabski himself who urged his delegation to stop at the old frontier of Galicia. This had belonged to Poland from the middle of the 14th Century, and had never belonged to Russia. Heart of this area is Lwow, one of the oldest and most distinctively Polish centres of culture in the country, as Vilna is in the north-eastern corner.

Even if one were to assume, in the absence of a free plebiscite, that all of the Ukrainians, White Russians and Pripet Marsh folk (a curious and distinctive tribe), wanted to join Soviet Russia, whether they were Catholic or Orthodox, they would only add up to 6½ millions in the part of Poland annexed by Stalin in 1939, as against 5¼ million Poles. Thus on this basis, the only reasonably fair settlement would be a line roughly halving the Eastern provinces, and leaving Vilna and Lwow to Poland.

Reviewing Polish-Soviet relations after the Treaty of Riga, the promises of non-aggression appear almost too frequent. The Litvinov Protocol was signed in Moscow in 1929, between Russia and her western neighbors, followed by a pact of non-aggression with Poland in 1932, a treaty for the same purpose in 1933, and an agreement in 1934, extending the non-aggression pact.

Considering this, it is curious that so much stress should be put on the non-aggression treaty which Poland negotiated with Germany, in the latter year. It was no more an alliance than the treaties with Russia. And the Soviet Government knew very

OUR CHRISTMAS WISH

There is probably one bygone Christmas that you remember above all others.

Our wish for you this year is that you may recapture something of the happiness you experienced on that day.

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well, just as every well-informed correspondent did, that Poland turned down numerous bids by Hitler and Goering to embark on a common adventure in the Ukraine. Nor did Poland sign the Anti-Comintern Pact.

There was a distinct coolness in Polish-Soviet relations at the time of Munich, when Poland did herself a great disservice in the eyes of the democratic world by seizing Teschen from a helpless Czechoslovakia—whatever the territorial rights of the case.

Nevertheless Soviet Russia signed a joint declaration of good neighborliness with Poland only two months after Munich, signed various commercial treaties in Feb. 1939, and *sent its Vice-Commissar for Foreign Affairs to Warsaw in April* 1939 *to declare that in the event of a Polish-German War, the Soviet Union would remain friendly to Poland.*

In May, the Polish Ambassador to Moscow stated that in the event of a German attack on Poland, his government would not reject Soviet assistance. In July, the Soviets countered with the assurance that transit facilities through Soviet Russia for Polish arms shipments (obviously from Britain through Murmansk) would immediately be afforded.

And even after signing the Molotov-Ribbentrop deal on August 23, 1939, the Soviets, through Marshal Voroshilov, stated that the "non-aggression pact" concluded with Germany did not preclude the selling of raw materials and munitions to Poland by the Soviets, in the event of a Polish-German war.

When the Poles sought ten days later, to buy arms and secure transit privileges, they were told by Molotov that "the situation was no longer the same as before." Instead of rendering the promised help, the Soviets marched in, breaking a twenty-years' series of treaties, and seized over half of Poland. They then carried out a fake plebiscite to incorporate the region in the Soviet Union. I have talked with more than one person who "voted" in this "plebiscite", brought to the polling booth by the Red Army, handed a slip of paper with only a place to mark "yes" to the question, and compelled to mark it right on the table, in front of the returning officer and a Red soldier, for lack of any booths or other facilities.

Ending Ukrainian Question

On the most conservative estimate, over 800,000 Poles were deported to Soviet labor camps, as well as some 200,000 Ukrainians and White Russians.

It may seem curious that members of the national groups which were being "liberated", the Ukrainians and White Russians, were included in this persecution. But one of the Soviet purposes in seizing the Polish Ukraine then, and demanding it now, is to make an end once and for all to the question of Ukrainian nationalism and separatism. It is as if we were to decide to make an end to French-Canadian separatism by deporting the members of the Order of Jacques Cartier to the North-West territories.

If we are to talk of "justice" and "injustice" in this Polish question, and understand why the present Polish Government in London is not sure that a Soviet promise is worth signing away half their country, and asks for an Anglo-American guarantee of Poland's independence as well, it is necessary to know this background. Next week I shall pursue the story of Polish-Soviet relations, and Soviet aims, through the war period.

Some very important and valuable facts on the Greek situation have come into my possession, which go a long way towards explaining what has happened. As for being a "reactionary" or a "fascist", Papandreou is a socialist, who was exiled by the Metaxas dictatorship. His all-party government was completed in September by the joining of four EAM and two Communist ministers, and when he formally resigned on the government's return to Greece in October, they reconfirmed him.

The civil war presently raging arose out of the dispute over the disarming of the EAM's private left-wing army, the ELAS. The EAM and Communist ministers agreed in early November to disarm the ELAS, and turn over police duties throughout the country to the newly-mobilized class of 1936 (in which, of course, many of their members would be included).

Then they demanded a veto over all the officers named to command the new army. Out of the first list of 292 officers, all of whom served in the Albanian fighting against Italy, the Communist Party vetoed 281. With each concession, the EAM-Communist appetite grew (the EAM is by no means all Communist, but is dominated by their closely-organized cells).

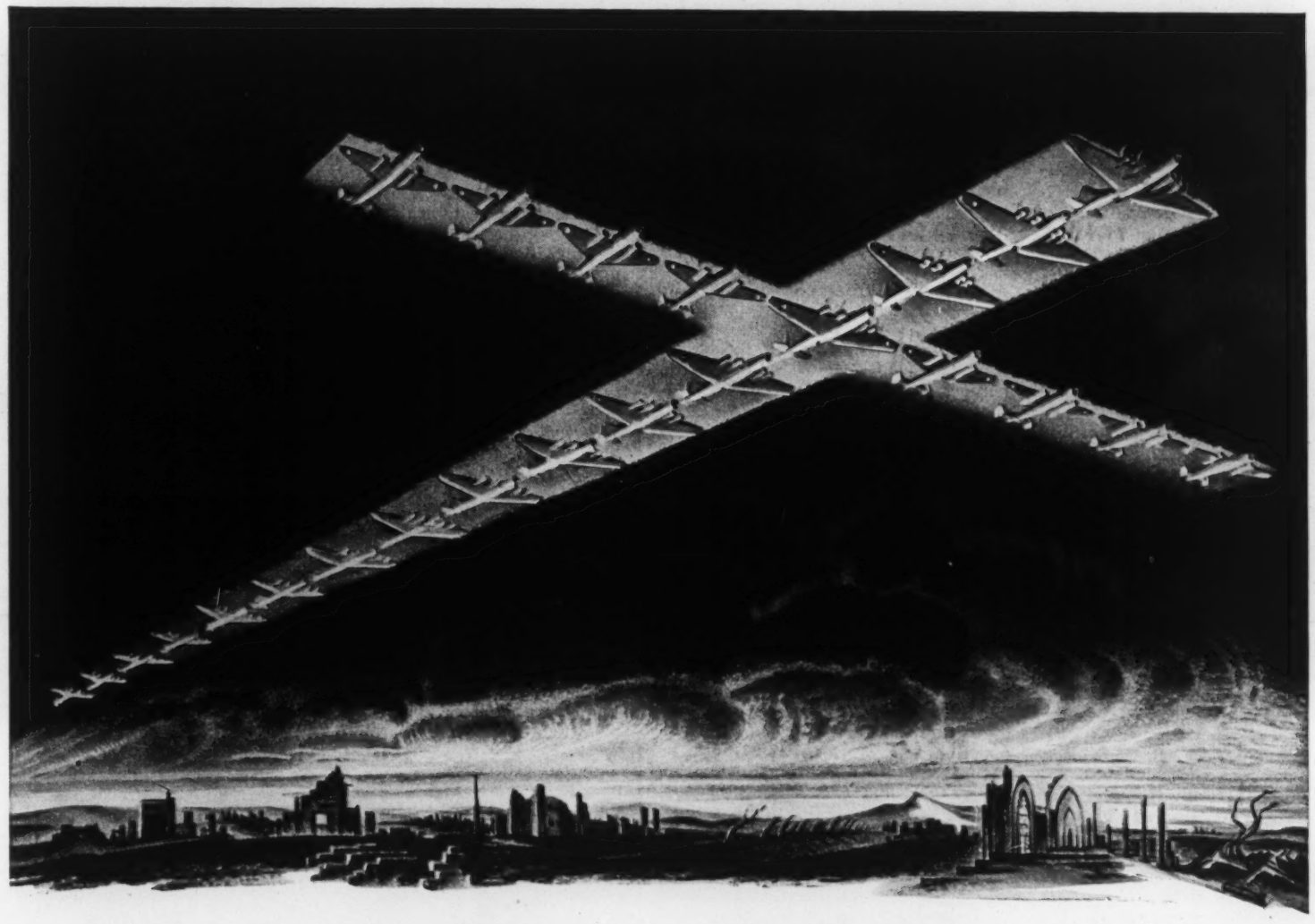
The Leftists now demanded the disbandment of the Mountain Brigade, which fought so well in Italy, and the Sacred Battalion, formed chiefly of officers from the troops who mutinied in Egypt last summer, the only organized formations possessed by the Greek State at present.

Communists in Greece

This demand, which could in no way be considered, forced a concession from the democratic faction in the government that a brigade of ELAS militia, equivalent in strength to the Mountain Brigade, the Sacred Company and a small EDES (Rightist) militia formation, would be incorporated in the army. Agreement on this was reached, *and signed by the Communist ministers.* Twenty-four hours later one of the Communist ministers demanded that the Mountain Brigade and Sacred Battalion be dissolved, leaving the army in the hands of the ELAS. Instead of handing over their arms, as agreed, to the class of 1936, on the first of December, the EAM-Communists launched an attempt at a coup d'état.

Marching, with arms, and with women and children, to a forbidden demonstration in Constitution Square, they began disarming the police there, taking their tommy-guns. Out of this rose the shooting, in which eleven demonstrators were killed. Much is made of this terrible casualty list in the world-wide leftist press. But just before this happened, the ELAS had thrown hand grenades into the house of the Prime Minister, and all that night their terror groups roamed through the city, breaking into houses and murdering their political opponents.

That is how it began. It was three days before the Greek Government called on the British forces to support them in restoring order. Yet, of course, the young bloods fingering their tommy-guns from hidden windows in Athens are "the friends of democracy", while Churchill, Papandreou and Scobie are "old reactionaries" trying to fasten dictatorship on "the people." If you, dear reader, can see promise of "peace on earth" from such unscrupulous Communist propaganda as we are being subjected to, and the pitifully confused public opinion which it is helping to create, I cannot.



... "*and the Gates of* Hell *shall* Not *Prevail against it*"

ST. MATTHEW 16-18

IGNORING the powers of reason and the Christian precepts of tolerance, love, pity and mercy, Nazi Germany brought upon peaceful countries the horrors of war.

Blitzkrieg they called it — bragged of it as a military master stroke!

What did they care that millions of young men would die? What mattered it to them that torpedoed seamen would perish in icy seas or blazing oil? What mattered it that millions of old folks would be made homeless, to starve or freeze — that children would be made orphans, or maimed and killed by bombs.

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70,000 Leaders Needed For Leisure Time

By LLOYD E. WOOD

The occupying of the leisure time of the nation, says the writer, is being practically handed over to commercial interests. He believes that an organized community system, needing about 70,000 workers, will alone ensure that our leisure time is used to the maximum benefit of the whole people.

Mr. Wood graduated from Springfield College, Springfield, Mass., with the degree of Bachelor of Public Education prior to the last war. He has had experience in Leisure Time Program work in many centres in Canada, the New England States and elsewhere, and lives at present in Edmonton, Alta.

AT THE end of the war there will be about two million people in Canada looking for new employment —750,000 from the armed forces and 1,250,000 now engaged in war work. Entirely new jobs will have to be created for at least 350,000 of this number. One-fifth of these 350,000, or 70,000, should be used in Leisure Time activity. The biggest and most important new job in the reconstruction of society is the Leisure Time program.

The only hope of taking up the slack in the new world of full employment and high productivity is by providing new occupations. Foremost among these is that of the supervision of leisure time activities. Two decades of constructive use of leisure time will rebuild, and two decades of destructive use of leisure time will destroy, any individual, any group of individuals, and any nation.

The proper organization of leisure time requires skilled and trained recreation workers with broad experience and with a human and Christian interest in the welfare of the community. Every community or district of approximately 500 population whether in city, town or rural municipality should have one leisure time director. No program with any permanent vitality is possible without a director. In cities and smaller towns these units need not be entirely separate, but could be combined into larger units with a proportionally increased number of organizers.

This organization would require 35,000 recreation directors, men and women, as against a probable 5,000 at present working full-time in that kind of activity. It would also require 35,000 additional utility men helping on construction and supervision.

A good many of these leaders and utility workers would come from the armed forces, where some are already having valuable training in the supervision of leisure time activities. Others from the armed services and elsewhere would have to be trained for the work. Some wounded and otherwise disabled soldiers and handicapped veterans would fit well into this program.

Local Departments Now

A Department of Leisure Time Recreation should be set up immediately in every province and municipality. The pigeon-holing of this enormous field of activity into some other department already in existence would hamper its progress, detract from its programs and injure its efficiency. The workers in this field must have complete freedom of action, with direct and sole responsibility to the elected administration.

One very important thing to keep in mind is that all present available recreation activities of a healthy and constructive nature should be encouraged and urged to carry on to the limit of their resources and equipment. There should be no overlapping of activity, and every effort should be made to coordinate all group work into the general program.

A building program, to be commenced immediately on the close of the war and continued for at least about five years, should be planned in detail as soon as possible, but not before the recreation directors have made a careful survey of the field to be worked. We are particularly fortunate in Canada in having on hand a number of Canadian and American government buildings, some of which are entirely suitable for leisure time programs in their present locations, while others could be employed for such programs by being moved and reconstructed. Many of these buildings are the last word in up-to-date equipment for the handling of leisure time activity. A number of them have the finest swimming pools and gymnasiums in Canada. All of this equipment should be ear-marked for leisure time purposes *now*. When the war is over it will be too late. Some buildings are already being closed and dismantled by the various war services for which they were erected.

Similarly the large number of persons in the armed forces and in war industries who are already engaged in, and have had experience of, leisure time activities should be brought into civilian leisure time activities as soon as their services are no longer required where they are.

It is impossible to go into complete detail concerning the work of the undertaking, but I must mention one item of primary importance. Libraries and readingrooms must be one of the first moves towards an organized leisure time program. The library of today does not in many cases, usually because of its geographical set-up, reach ten per cent of the people whom it is supposed to serve. The task to be done is that of getting good literature to the public. In addition to the main library, in every city or larger town, there must be branches or distribution centres for every unit of four or five hundred population. A leisure time centre with supervised library facilities would be of exceptional value in getting results.

Professionals Indispensable

The play instinct in its broadest sphere—from gardening to golf, checkers to mountain climbing, sandpiles to public speaking, dancing to swimming, zoological gardens to bicycling, fishing to tobogganing, skiing to chess, drama to kite flying, museums to art galleries, darts to orchestras—means action expressed in terms of mental, moral, physical, social, economical and spiritual welfare.

The men and women who direct such a leisure time program would be the busiest persons in the community. But the results obtained, in pleasure, health, happiness and better citizenship, would be limited only by their ability to organize and handle these activities along modern lines.

Paid professional leadership is indispensable for the greater part of this work. Voluntary leadership has made valuable contributions in the past and is still doing so, but the time has come when the organization, planning and stabilizing of leisure time activities must be made permanent through paid leadership. Permanency of leadership, and with it permanency of effort, are impossible with volunteers. Changes of circumstance and lack of time always disrupt the best of plans and leave activities stranded.

There is a popular belief that when a leisure time plan fails it is due to lack of interest on the part of those whom it is designed to benefit. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred this is not the case; the failure is due to voluntary leadership falling down. Our failures of the past have been chiefly due to the fact that we expected more from voluntary, unpaid leadership than from paid assistants in recreation work, and subjected it to severer criticism. Any important activity is worthy of its hire and should be paid for. This means that the problem is squarely up to the various governing bodies, Dominion, provincial and local, who must accept

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. . . and then came

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Like Christmas waits are these dancers at Abbots, Bromley, in Britain, who go from house to house doing their horn dance which is nearly 400 years old. The dance starts at the church where the deer horns are kept.

the responsibility of helping to provide the men, equipment, and guidance for solving what is essentially a national, provincial and community problem.

Function of State

At the present time the provision of leisure time activity is mainly in the hands of commercial organizations, and is carried on for profit and in competitive conditions. But if we look back into ancient history, we find that at certain periods when civilization went ahead by leaps and bounds in literature and art, the making of provision for leisure time was a function of the state, and at other times of the church. Both state and church today have allowed these activities to drift away from their control to such an extent that commercial interests and private gain have become the chief factors and the dominant element in the present system.

Philanthropic organizations and private clubs with religion as a background have in recent years cultivated the great creative force of the play instinct, and have shown the world the great need for controlling and directing it. They have done exceptionally good work for the small groups to which they cater, and have pioneered many interesting experiments in leisure time work, but they have failed absolutely in getting definite results for the general community in which they operate. Their future as experimental stations for the members whom they serve will always be important. The leadership, religious zeal and invincible determination which they have shown will always be needed.

But there is one conclusion which must be drawn from the experience of the last thirty-five years, and that is that philanthropic organizations and private clubs cannot handle this immense task. It is clearly a duty of the public authorities and should be organized accordingly. Philanthropic organizations have gone about as far as philanthropy and public donations will foot the bill.

Commercial Hold Growing

Commercialized amusements are gradually using up a larger space of leisure time in our civilization each year. Their activities and this leisure time usage will continue to increase as long as financial interests entirely dominate this field. Greece and Rome fell when leisure time became dominated by commercialized interests.

We must expect many changes and new developments in the leisure time field with the war ending and new types of commercialized recreation being introduced. We have on the one hand the theatre in its various forms, which caters to the largest number of our leisure time population. We have the bowling alleys and pool halls acting as a community function of enjoyment. We have the beer parlors and the various social drinking clubs. We have the gambling organizations which function from gambling dens to popular games in other spheres. We have the various strata of commercial dance halls, some of which are well run and others cater to V.D. and a low stratum of society.

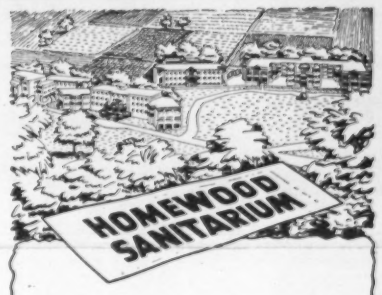
These varied commercialized leisure time activities in our cities and country districts at present function in importance at various levels of morality and will continue to function to a greater degree as our leisure time becomes more abundant.

Governments have in civilian life totally neglected this great creative force of the play instinct in leisure time. In the armed forces they speedily found that they could not afford to neglect it, and leisure time directors are playing a very important part in every phase of military life.

In considering the financial problem involved, two important aspects must not be left out of sight: (1) It is a reconstruction program covering the entire society, and calculated to raise it to a higher plane of mental, moral and physical health. (2) It will rehabilitate in new types of work some 70,000 persons, chiefly from the armed forces and war industry.

The salaries of leisure time directors will have to be financed by the municipal and provincial governments. The minimum expenditure in buildings and equipment for a unit of from four to five hundred persons should be not less than $15,000. Subsidies, loans (perhaps without interest) and salary grants would naturally come from the Dominion government as part of its contribution towards rehabilitation. This government has been investing money in its war recreation services because they pay dividends. Why not invest money in a full leisure time program for all citizens and reap dividends for the nation as a whole? The subsequent savings in the cost of police work and in unnecessary sickness would go a long way towards paying for the program.

If our soldiers, sailors and airmen who have been killed in the fight for true democracy could express themselves to us, they would unanimously say: "Do not build cenotaphs and other monuments in remembrance of us, but start to build the new world we fought and prayed for with a full leisure time program for our fellow Canadians of all ages. Build better communities and a better civilization, and we shall never be forgotten."



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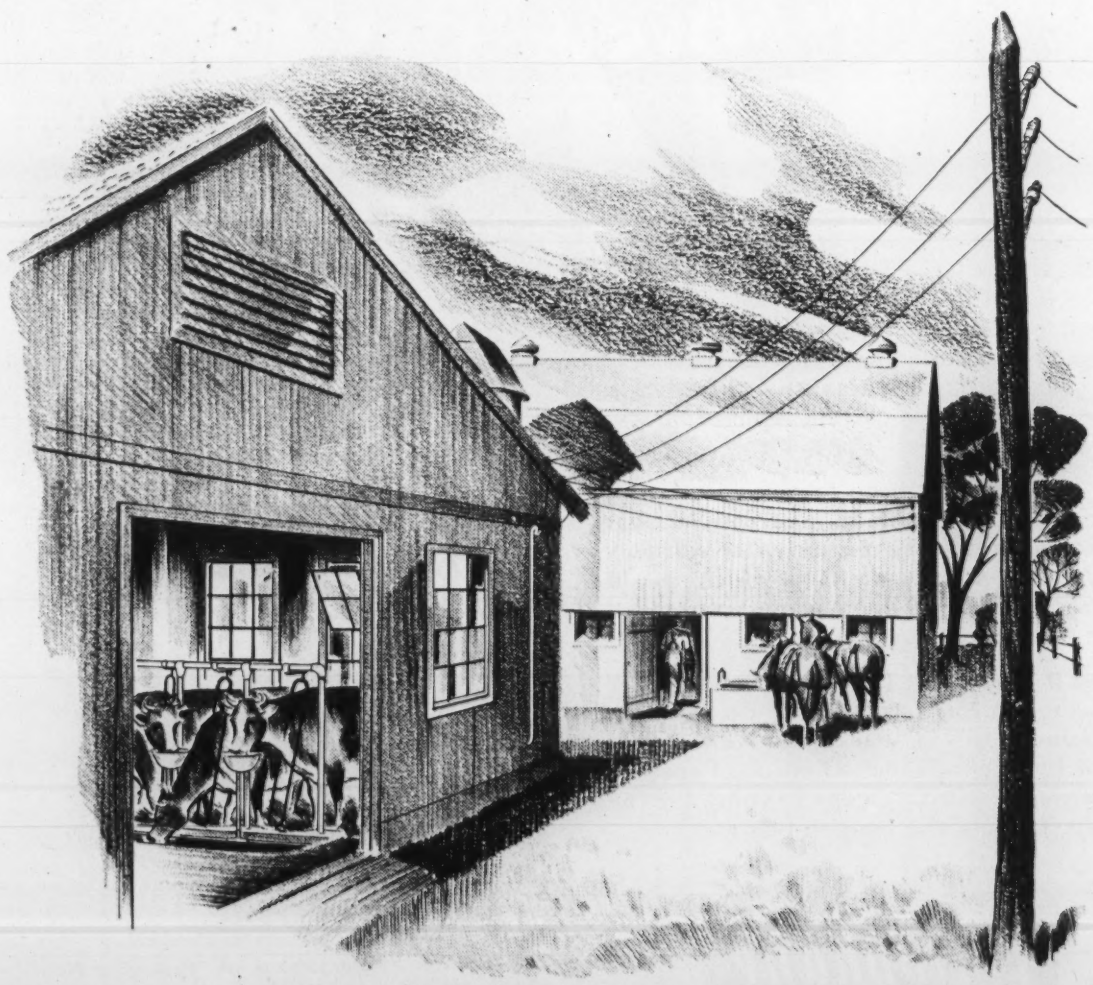

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THE LONDON LETTER

The Welsh Want a Secretary And After All Why Not, Look You?

By P. O'D.

IT WAS, I suppose, inevitable that the Welsh, seeing the good work a shrewd and energetic Secretary of State for Scotland has been able to do for that country, should think it high time there was a Secretary for Wales. After all, why not, look you? Is not Wales also a country, with its own special problems? Are not the Welsh also a people, indeed to goodness? Why should they have to go running around to half a dozen Ministries every time they want anything important done, instead of having a Minister of their own to attend to it for them? Anyway, that's how they look at it.

For a long time this question has been mooted in a mild way, but recently it has been brought to the fore by the obvious need for a great expansion of Welsh electrical resources and supplies. Here again the Welsh look with envy at Scotland, where a £30,000,000 hydro-electric scheme has taken shape, largely through the efforts of its Secretary of State. They see no good reason why something of the same sort should not also be done for Wales.

They, in fact, want something in the nature of the Tennessee Valley Authority, which so greatly impressed Mr. James Griffiths, the Secretary of the Welsh Parliamentary Party, on his recent visit to the United States. But they have little hope of getting it unless they have a special Minister to pull the plan through. As one Welsh M.P. put it, a T.V.A. scheme is a cart, and it isn't much use without a horse.

There is at present a tendency to call for special Ministers for almost everything. If the various planners had their way, the Cabinet would be so big that it would probably have to hold its meetings in the Albert Hall. But there does seem to be a good case for a Welsh Secretary.

Wales is not England. It is indeed almost a foreign country—or so it is apt to seem to anyone wandering about among the Welsh hills. The country is different, and so are the people, with something aloof and watchful about them for all the friendliness of their manners. An attractive people, but not easy to know well.

Though most of them talk English—usually with Celtic modulations and that odd lift of the voice at the end of sentences—all about you you hear the sound of Welsh speech. And to the ordinary person in this country there couldn't be anything much more foreign than that. So by all means let them have a Secretary of State. It seems only right and reasonable that there should be someone in the Cabinet who can talk to them in their own language. How about Mr. Lloyd George?

Rebuilding Not Made Easy

Grand work has been done by the various local authorities in the way of repairs to bomb-damaged houses. With quite amazing speed, gangs of workmen turn up, and set about nailing tarpaulins over the holes in shattered roofs, shoring up shaken walls, and filling broken windows with water-proof material. It is not lovely, but at least it keeps out the wind and the rain.

The difficulty is that, once these emergency repairs have been made, the men move on somewhere else, and the house may remain like that for months on end. If the owner decides to do something about it himself, here are a few of the obstacles he must circumvent.

If the cost is over £100, he must get a licence from the Regional Officer. In badly stricken districts such licences are almost unobtainable. If it is much over £100, he must get a "certificate of essentiality" before he applies for the licence. These are even harder to get. And this is only the beginning.

If the cost exceeds £250, the consent of the War Damage Commission must be obtained. If the structure will be affected, the District Surveyor must give his approval. If the appearance of the building will be changed, the Planning Authority must be consulted. And it doesn't at all follow that all these various officials—or any of them, for that matter—will give their august consent. Officials are like that.

Supposing you are lucky, all you have to do then is get a permit for such lumber as the work may require, permits for certain other materials as well, and find someone who really has the stuff in stock. Last of all you must discover a local contractor or builder who has any men left to do the work. There are no such contractors. Every available man has been swept into the regional pool—the gangs that rush about doing the emergency repairs.

So you go home to the tarpaulins and the tar-paper and the shored-up walls, and decide to see the war through that way. After all, you are rather lucky to be able to go on living in your own house. A very considerable number of your fellow-citizens and their families are not so able.

You grin and bear it. Or you bear it without grinning. It makes mighty little difference—except to yourself. The one thing you don't do, if you are wise, is to grumble, for that merely starts the other fellow telling you about his troubles, and if there is anything hard to bear in this horrible business, it is surely the other man's bomb.

Starting Air College

One of the things the war has done for this country has been to make the British people extremely air-minded. Hitler, in his days of bounce and bellow, boasted that "there are no more islands". For once, he was right. Nowhere has that warning been taken more seriously to heart than here—for peace as well as for war. The British mean to have their share of the air.

It may seem odd that it should have needed a world war to drive home so obvious a lesson. Not that people in this country have been uninterested in modern air-development or inactive in furthering it. There have always been a few enthusiasts to keep Britain abreast of the times in certain directions—as the Spitfires proved in the Battle of Britain. But people here have not been air-minded to anything like the same general degree as Canadians or Americans.

Flying in Britain hasn't entered into ordinary life. Hardly anyone thinks of taking a 'plane merely to go somewhere, except abroad. And the reason is simple. This is a small country, where journeys by rail or car seldom take more than a comparatively short time. Few people would travel by 'plane, and so it wouldn't pay to establish services—though a modest start is now being made. People may in time get used to the idea.

Air-power as a means of world communication, and especially air-power as a vital part of Imperial defence—it is here that British plans are extensive, advanced, and thorough. Only the other day a special committee brought out its report on the establishment of an aeronautical college "as a matter of urgency". It is to cost not far short of £3,000,000 to establish and £400,000 a year to keep up. The Government is to pay the bill, and we are told that the Government has already accepted these recommendations.

You can't build up air-power without the right men trained in the right way. The Government is planning to have them. Picked students will take a two-years' course at the college, and from there will go into the aircraft industry or civil flying or into the Services. The college will also be a centre of experiment and research. It is hard to think of a national investment that should pay better or bigger returns.

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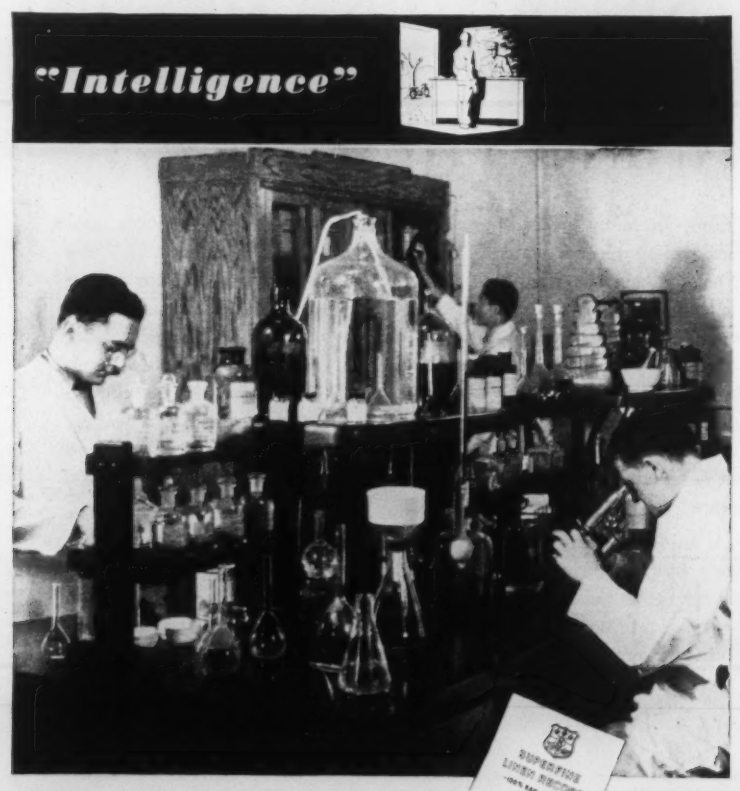

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A Radiant Study of Contrasts Young Love Set Against War

PASTORAL, a novel, by Nevil Shute. (McClelland and Stewart, $3.00.)

PETER MARSHALL is a flying officer in command of a Wellington bomber, at the age of 22. He has a genius for flying and for meeting emergencies of flak and fighters, so that his crew trust and love him. When one bomber after another is reported missing "R for Robert" always comes home, even when seriously the worse for wear. In Peter's off hours he goes fishing; not for roach, like his sergeant-navigator, a Dane content with small mercies, but for pike. Whether he gets one or not he is content in the spring sunlight and the peace of rural England. For his toughness as a fighting-man is balanced by the tenderness of extreme youth. In war he prepares unconsciously for peace and beauty.

There comes a day when he lands an eleven-pound pike, and exults. "Do you care to see my fish?" he asks of all his usual officer associates. One by one they decline with opprobrious remarks. "Like something out of a sewer" says one of all pike. Another, brooding over the loss of his best friend, gets violent, "If you don't shove off and let me alone I'll kick your teeth in." So Peter looking a little like a small boy in the midst of a lack of appreciation, is astonished when Section Officer Robertson of the W.A.A.F. intimates that she would like to see it.

They brood over the spectacle for a few minutes and so begins an acquaintanceship which ripens and glows. For Gervase Robertson is a country girl from Yorkshire, as well as an expert in Signals, plotting departures and arrivals in Bomber Command. She would go miles to see a badger beside his earth, or a fox silhouetted against the moon, but at the same time the War is her main business. She knows that her work is a life and death business. When Peter at last says, "I'm working up to ask you if you'd like to marry me," she isn't having any, thank you —at least for a long, long time.

The pains and troubles arising from her decision are desperate, and almost terrible; as when Peter comes back with half a wing gone and one of his crew lying with two broken legs. The plane hasn't wing-spread enough to throttle down to landing speed, so Peter orders the other three to bail out and then makes a belly-landing at 150 miles an hour.

Against such vivid scenes, rich in technical detail, and aflame with passion the lovers play their part, in a completely romantic, even poetic, fashion. Their story is like a Herrick lyric, all grace and beauty. No other novel which the war has engendered is so cleanly-wrought, so charming in manner and style.

•

The Archbishop

THE CHURCH LOOKS FORWARD, by Dr. William Temple. (Macmillans, $2.50.)

WHAT the late Archbishop of Canterbury really said with respect to economics and the post-war period has not always been clearly reported in the newspapers. Here is the text of such addresses as touched on the theme, as well as a number of short sermons on high occasions. The general trend of his thinking was that only by cultivation of "the fruits of the Spirit" could it be possible to provide the good life for the individual and the nation. He distrusted the notion that Utopia was realizable through this-or-that system, or by some mystical kind of organization. In a word; that the better life depended on a sharp increase of better men. The wisdom of these addresses reveals once more the stature of the man—and Britain's loss by his untimely death.

•

The Crime Calendar

By J. V. McAREE

WE SEE no promising Roughead budding Pearson among the authors of "New York Murders" (Collins, $3) a collection of stories about actual New York murders, edited by Ted Collins. The work is done competently by writers whose names will be generally unknown to Canadian readers. The best of them is Edward D. Radin who writes about the Perry-Palm case which we are ashamed to say we never heard of, though it is a gem. The collection is recommended to those who prefer to read about real instead of fictional murders; and the publishers promise that soon to be issued are collections about murders in Chicago and murders in San Francisco. "Don't Look Behind You" by Samuel Rogers (Musson, $2.50) is a study in abnormal psychology beautifully written, which we may have mentioned before. It is not for the reader of conventional detective stories. . . "The Glass Mask" by Leonore Glen Offord (Collins, $2.50.) is the best detective story we have read in many months, and comes close to meriting inclusion under that somewhat snobbish word literature. We believe the leading characters have already appeared in other novels by the same writer and we regret that we are here coming across them for the first time. The book is heartily recommended to readers who can appreciate charming writing and photographic observation, communicated in rather a low tone of voice, if no mixed metaphors are involved here.

•

Three Vital Months

THE OXFORD PERIODICAL HISTORY OF THE WAR, by Edgar McInnis. (Oxford, 25c.)

COMING to the decisive first quarter of this year which ended the German threat to the domination of Russia, Prof. McInnis is particularly happy in the organization of a welter of reports, Russian and German, and in their presentation in a suave yet condensed prose. Much of the story sounds new, even to confirmed newspaper readers, for the daily despatches, spotted with unfamiliar placenames, lead too often to confusion of understanding. Also the hard going in Italy, especially around Cassino is made clear. No other commentator on the world-wide struggle is more satisfying.

•

A Tiresome Three

THE BEDCHAMBER MYSTERY, by C. S. Forester. (Saunders, $1.35.)

THREE short stories, one hooting at mid-Victorian modesty, one a smirk at feminine continence and the last, at science. Men slightly exalted, at conventions or at class dinners, will like them.

•

Tribal Folk Lore

TALES THE TOTEMS TELL, by Hugh Weatherby. (Macmillans, $1.75.)

SINCE every totem-pole of the Coast Indians is a fairy-tale in symbolism there is high merit in this author's plan to collect and re-tell in plain English the tribe-legends that inspired these strange relics. The fanciful stories are admirably illustrated by the author.

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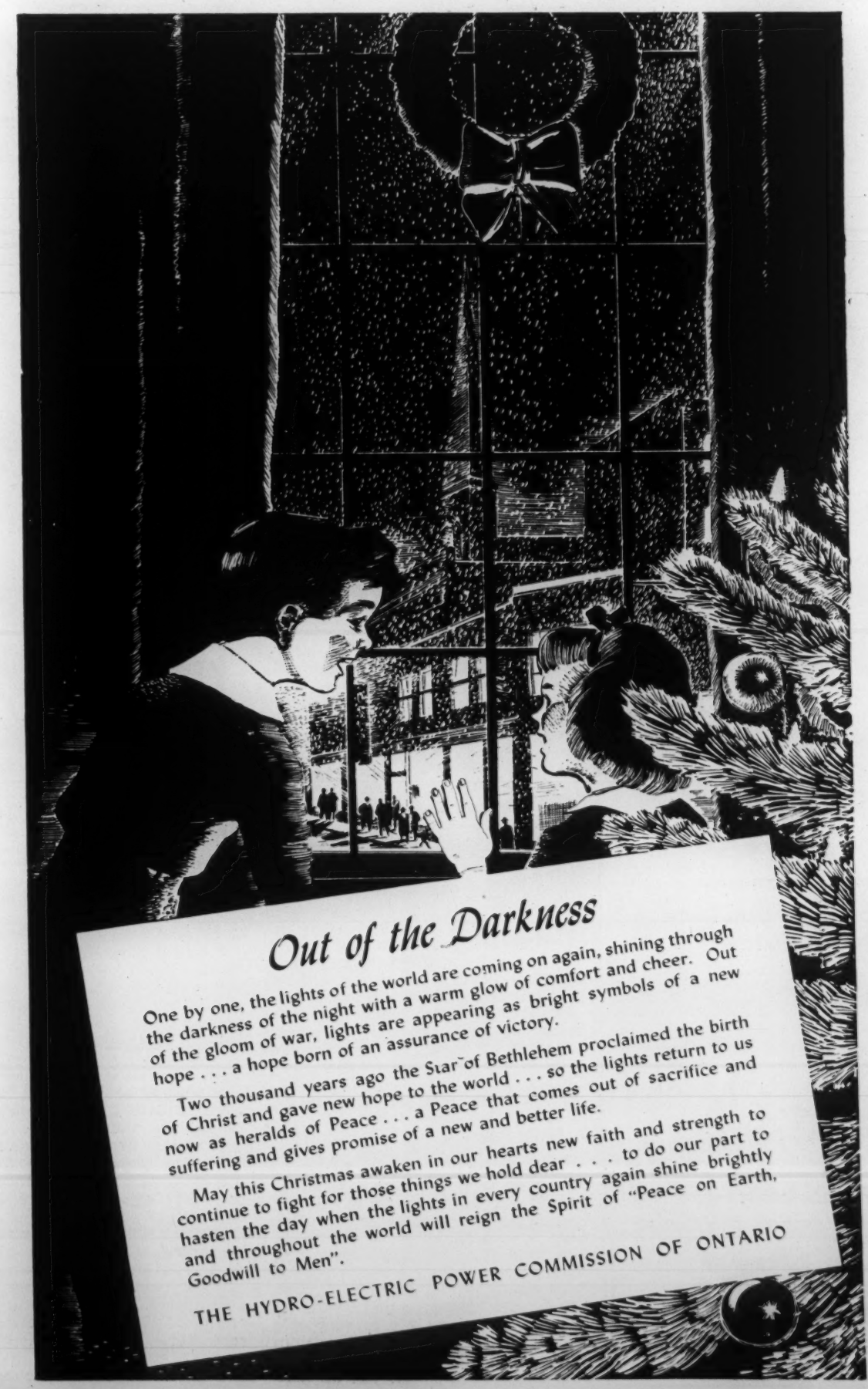
Out of the Darkness
One by one, the lights of the world are coming on again, shining through the darkness of the night with a warm glow of comfort and cheer. Out of the gloom of war, lights are appearing as bright symbols of a new hope . . . a hope born of an assurance of victory.
Two thousand years ago the Star of Bethlehem proclaimed the birth of Christ and gave new hope to the world . . . so the lights return to us now as heralds of Peace . . . a Peace that comes out of sacrifice and suffering and gives promise of a new and better life.
May this Christmas awaken in our hearts new faith and strength to continue to fight for those things we hold dear . . . to do our part to hasten the day when the lights in every country again shine brightly and throughout the world will reign the Spirit of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men".
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ART AND ARTISTS

Sole Yardsticks of Non-Objective Art Are Line, Form and Color

By PAUL DUVAL

MR. GRAHAM McINNES, writing in SATURDAY NIGHT, made the rather prevalent, but also rather vital, error of confusing abstract and non-objective art. He writes that "Abstract or 'non-objective' art has always been hard for Canadians to take despite the success of artists like Lawren Harris, David Milne and Alfred Pellan." Now it is true that abstract *and* non-objective art are hard for Canadians to appreciate, but it does not follow that they are one and the same thing. Nor could David Milne ever be described as a non-objective artist by the wildest stretch of the imagination, and Harris and Pellan can only be described as such on certain occasions. For instance, Lawren Harris' "Composition" is a non-objective painting whereas his "North Shore, Lake Superior" and the bulk of his creations are not. The difference? Abstract art, which to a lesser or greater degree has continually existed since the Altamira cave drawings, presupposes some actual object or literal subject from which the artist has *abstracted* (abstract, v.t. Deduct, remove, summarize) those lines, shapes and textures which to him represent the most significant essence of the object. Thus, the head by a Negro sculptor of the Congo, the portrait by Modigliani and the bust by Picasso reproduced are all unique abstractions of the same object—a human head.

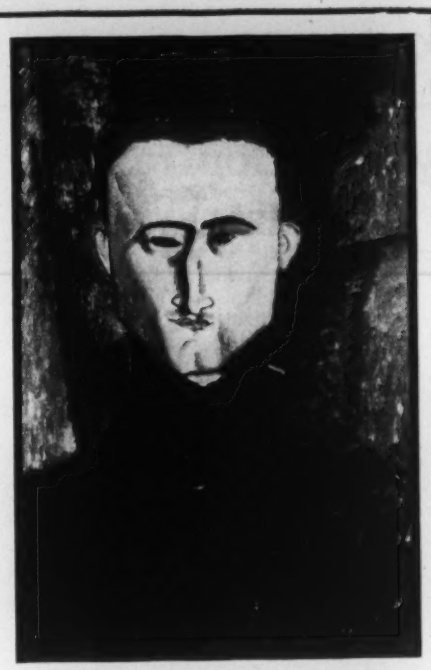
Non-objective painting, on the other hand, presupposes nothing except a sense of color, space-relations, linear rhythm, and pattern plus emotion. In fact, non-objective art is closer to the essence of expressionism than to cubism. The non-objective artist requires no imagined or actual object to set his creative processes in motion. His work arises solely out of a union of technical competence and an inner sense of being, and is related to concrete objects only in so far as it fortuitously expresses shapes similar to those already in nature. Non-objective art is purely an art of the spirit or, if you prefer, of refined emotions—and while, at its best, it inevitably entails great formal sensibilty, it is instinctive "feeling" rather than a refinement of "real" objects from nature which decides its aesthetic form.

Moore, Nicholson

Mr. McInnes mentions Henry Moore, a very gifted English painter and sculptor, who happens to be a good example of an artist who has ventured into both the abstract and non-objective fields. His earlier exhibited works were non-objective and bore such titles as "Carving, 1937" or "Shapes" while today most of his drawings and paintings (he is at present doing little sculpture) bear such titles as "Miners at Work," "Row of Sleepers," and are closer to being abstracts than non-objective paintings. Ben Nicholson is another instance of an artist who has worked in both fields, only in his case the advance has been from abstract to non-objective. His abstract "Painting, 1932" is clearly representative of a shop window with lettering painted on it and objects behind it. On the other hand, his non-objective "Relief, 1934" depicts nothing existing on earth and depends for its effect solely upon space "timing" and linear counterpoint.

Using the different arts for comparative purposes is usually a precarious business and can soon lead the artist into exceedingly illogical verbiage. However, in illustrating the character of non-objective art, particularly non-objective painting, it is both convenient and sensible to draw parallels with music. The elements of music—rhythm, harmony, counterpoint, etc., found to some degree in all worthwhile pictures, are at their purest in non-objective painting—in fact, they are the raison d'etre of this form of art. Just as a Bach concerto or a Chopin etude should require no associative meaning, other than beauty of melodic structure, so non-objective paintings should not be expected to "mean" something in a literary sense. Why man is so much more willing to accept with his ears without asking what the musical sounds "mean" than he is to feel directly through his eyes is an interesting point. It may be that there are more people "blind" to visual formal values than are musically "deaf". Or it may be that since, as scientists tell us, man has developed his visual sense at the expense of the aural he is much more given to demanding explanations for what he sees than for what he hears.

Whatever it is, non-objective art has not been received with the sympathy which it merits. I dont think it is the supreme parnassus of artistic evolution which some enthusiasts claim it to be (though it has produced one great artist, Vasily Kandinsky), but it is evident that a sensitive organization of hues, tones, lines, etc., can impart considerable pleasure to those who approach them in a receptive spirit. If the spectator would so view them, remembering that they are the creations of artists with serious intent, technical gifts, and high sensibility, who are trying to impart to him some of the joy they discover in the subtle juxtaposition of formal visual elements, I believe that he would gradually grow to respect non-objective art, or even become fond of it. Anyway, he is bound to miss a lot of rich visual experiences if he chooses to ignore it. But, a closing word of warning, seek out the original examples—no type of art loses so much of its vitality in monochrome reproduction as does non-objective painting.



"Jean De Rouveyre", by Modigliani, is an abstraction of a human head.

MUSICAL EVENTS

English Music a Century Ago

By HECTOR CHARLESWORTH

OCCASIONALLY one alludes to fascinating items the London *Times* reprints daily from its issues of a century ago. They cover a wide field; the movements of the young Queen Victoria and her family; obituary notes on heroes of Waterloo, then rapidly passing from the earthly scene; development of railways; quarrels of historic politicians; and records of musical events.

Reprints from an issue of November 7, 1844, recently gave an account of the first anniversary performance of Balfe's "Bohemian Girl", first heard at Drury Lane in November, 1843. The anniversary was marked by the hundredth performance of the work at that theatre, and by the presentation to Balfe of a handsome piece of plate, for which the Duke of Devonshire and the Marchioness of Conyngham headed the subscription list. One presumes that the latter was the enchantress who consoled the last years of George IV, then dead for 14 years.

Michael William Balfe was a Dublin Irishman born in 1808, who came to London in 1823 as an operatic baritone, and subsequently became a composer. From 1829 to 1874 he composed 29 operas all forgotten except "The Bohemian Girl," which went all over the world. In French it was known as "La Bohemienne" and in Italian as "La Zingara". In my youth it was in the repertory of all travelling grand opera companies. The other day I heard an abbreviated version over radio and the charm of the melodies, (a field in which Balfe was fertile) was still irresistible. The choruses were charming and three famous arias, "I Dreamed that I Dwelt in Marble Halls" (for soprano) "Then You'll Remember Me" (for tenor) and "The Heart Bowed Down" (for baritone) were a good deal better than those you will find in such a modern success as "Oklahoma". Even Victor Herbert never did anything so good. The greatest vocalists sang Balfe's music. I happen to possess a play bill of Drury Lane for June 17, 1836, when his opera "The Maid of Artois" was given (with Malibran) as a double bill with Auber's "Masaniello". Together they ran five hours.

"Light Form", by Vasily Kandinsky, talented painter of the non-objective.

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FILM AND THEATRE

A Quick, Easy Cleaning in a Gentle Lather Desirable

By MARY LOWREY ROSS

"IT's ridiculous saying people in Hollywood take marriage lightly," Miss A. said. "They take it lightly the way a dipsomaniac takes alcohol lightly."

We found a seat at the back of the street-car and Miss A. spread her Christmas parcels about her. "Now take Lana Turner's mother in 'Marriage is a Private Affair'," she said, "Lana's mother just can't leave marriage alone. No matter how many marriages she's had she's always ready to take another quick one. That's the sort of home Lana's had and so naturally when she comes to get married herself she figures she may have an inherited appetite."

"And is that what the picture's about?" I asked.

Miss A. shook her head. "It's what it's supposed to be about," she said, "What it's really about is the Care of One's Intimate Underthings. Only that doesn't come into it till later. . . You see, Lana's married to John Hodiak and his parents have been married ever since he can remember and some of his best friends have been married for as long as two years. So he thinks he and Lana will be able to make a go of it. And then right away things begin to go wrong. They have this wonderful apartment and a marvellous cook-general and a darling little baby, and he can't figure what's wrong with Lana—"

"What *is* wrong with Lana?" I asked, and Miss A. sighed. "Poor Lana! There she is, stuck in this sink-hole of monogamy and getting more desperate every minute. You see they put her Conscience on the sound track and Lana and her Conscience argue it all back and forth from morning till night. Conscience tells her she's vain and selfish and Lana says, well, look at the kind of mother she had. Conscience sends her out to buy mason jars to can tomatoes and Lana dumps the jars into a rubbish container on the way home.

A passenger edged into the seat beside her and Miss A. gathered up her parcels rather resentfully. "Ding, dong, bell, till Pussy's finally in the well," she said. "In other words she curled up under her mink coat in the corner of the chesterfield in another man's apartment at four in the morning. Only unfortunately she forgot to bring her pajamas."

"What do you mean unfortunately?" I asked, "Which side are you on anyway, Lana's or Lana's Conscience?"

"Lana's Conscience, of course," Miss A. said, "Because if she'd brought her pajamas she'd have found the note John Hodiak left in the pocket telling her he loved her. You see John had to rush off to Vermont for the night, and he thought Lana was spending the evening at a movie—"

"What movie?" I asked.

"What difference, what movie?" Miss A. said. "As a matter of fact she was supposed to be at 'Mrs. Miniver'."

"That's sort of interesting," I said, "Because at Warner Brothers 'The Dough-Girls' one of the characters goes to the movies and it's a Warner Brothers movie. Wonder what would happen if an M-G-M character went to a Warner Brothers movie."

"It couldn't happen," Miss A. said positively. "M-G-M characters may cheat their husbands but they wouldn't last long if they started cheating the promotion department . . . Anyway the point is she didn't go to the movie. And John Hodiak found out about it because the note was still in her pajama pocket the next night when she went to go to bed." She paused. "Well. Can you imagine!"

"Imagine what?" I asked.

"Imagine Lana Turner wearing the same pajamas two nights in succession!" Miss A. said. "Don't you see? That was the whole point of the picture. If Lana had been a Daily Dipper the thing couldn't have happened. It's just as the advertisers say—the daily habit of a quick easy cleaning in a gentle lather will help a girl avoid embarrassment."

I shook my head. "Well you may be right, but it seems a long hard way to sell soap-flakes. . . I suppose she loses John Hodiak over it?"

"As a matter of fact she doesn't," Miss A. said, "They give her a quick easy cleaning in the last sequence and everything turns out all right." She reached up and pressed the bell, for her stop. "How about you? You see any pictures this week?"

"Just 'The Very Thought of You'," I said. "There wasn't anything very unusual about it. Except Faye Emerson of course. She's just been married to Elliott Roosevelt."

Miss A. gathered up her parcels. "Well, what's so unusual about that?" she said.

• •

Real Folk Play is Here Again

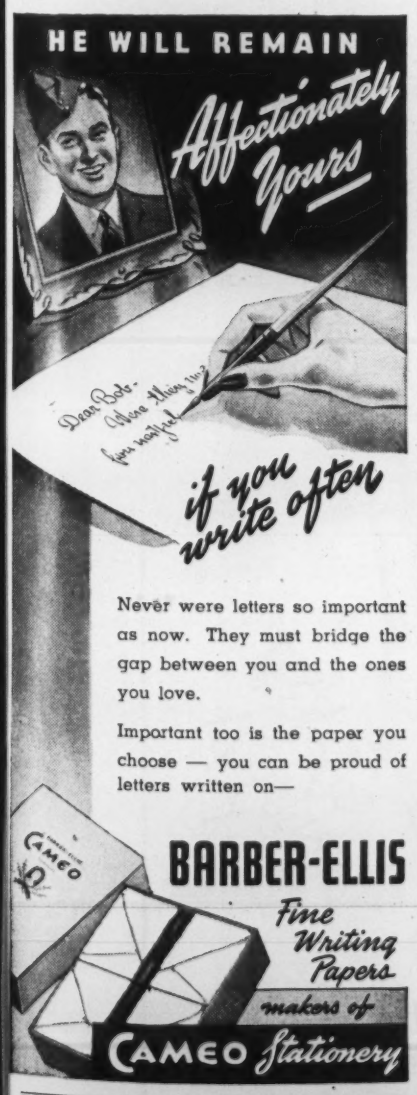
By LUCY VAN GOGH

THE great American folk play, "Abie's Irish Rose," is once again at the Royal Alexandra. It is a folk play in the proper sense of the term —much more so even than "Uncle Tom's Cabin"—in that it is a natural growth rather than a composition. The authorship is quite properly ascribed to Anne Nichols, who had instinct enough to put it together and hang on to the performing rights; but Miss Nichols would be the last to claim that she had actually created either the fable or the characters. They grew, through a long sequence of vaudeville sketches, probably preceded by New York beer hall entertainments but that we would not know, and always much nearer to the great heart of the peepul than any Broadway success can ever be.

The peepul has a great, and we hope justified, faith in the power of the free air and free institutions of North America to overcome the ancient animosities of tribal and religious separateness. During the twenty-odd years of this play's life there has probably been more race prejudice, race rioting, race exclusion and race gangsterism than at any other period in the continent's history; yet the instinct of the peepul, which continues to provide audiences for Abie and his colleen, may be sound for all that. It may be that racial admixture—the natural consequence of the passion and confidence of youth—will triumph in the end over the ancient tribal barriers as the love of Abie and Rosemary triumphs over the hatreds of the Levys and the Murphys. Before that happens there will be a great deal of tragedy. The year of unhappiness of Abie and his Irish rose is symbolic, but the life of nations is measured in centuries, not years.

After which observation we must note that the piece is, for those who can take it that way, an amusing comedy and very adequately performed. The house will be dark Christmas week and will show the musical film "Fantasia" at New Year's.

The Hart House String Quartet as reorganized for this season; First Violin, James Levey; Second Violin, Henry Milligan; Viola, Cyril Glayde; Violoncello, Boris Hambourg. The ensemble is most notable.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WORLD OF WOMEN

Ghost of "Christmas Past" Comes to Norway's Men in Canada

By LILLIAN ROHRT

OF ALL my memories from childhood days I think the one that made the most impression was the reading of Dickens' "Christmas Carol" by the family. It never failed to put us in the Christmas spirit and so this year I have read it somewhat earlier than usual—hoping that it may give me some of the yuletide spirit because, like most people in this fifth Christmas since our world went mad, I yearn for the hope and peace of heart that this season should bring.

But as I read, like Scrooge, I am haunted by many ghosts—and most of all by the "Ghost of Christmas Past". The thought recurs—"This *is* Christmas Past for so many, many of the young men and women in the world today" and my thoughts go back to the first Christmas in Canada for the members of the Royal Norwegian Air Force. I had worked with them since the RNAF was organized on this side, had been accepted by them although I couldn't speak their language, and had made many good friends among them.

The first Christmas at Little Norway, in 1940 was a very festive celebration. Gifts had been pouring into camp for months and a committee of the wives of those officers fortunate enough to have them on this side had been working night and day sorting and packing and wrapping each parcel individually. Christmas trees were decorated with white lights in all mess halls, wheat sheaves were put over the doors for the sparrows, all sorts of delicious odors came from the kitchens and invitations were issued to many Canadian friends who were to have the pleasure of experiencing Norwegian hospitality for the first time. The camp was a hive of activity and anticipation but underneath it all was a current of sadness, nothing voiced, nothing definite, but you could feel it. Of course they would be home by next Christmas, nothing was surer than that, but there were the ghosts of those who had died in defending their country—the country that had been at peace for 127 years. . .

Another Christmas

But the celebrations went on. Christmas Eve, after a beautiful service at St. John's Garrison Church, there were dinner parties in the various mess halls. All the old traditions were observed—the traditional porridge with the prize nut, speeches, and then everyone going to the airmen's canteen where hands were joined while circling the Christmas trees—an old Norwegian custom—singing all the old carols and folk songs. One noticed many eyes full of tears. Santa Claus gave gifts accompanied by humorous poems to many of the officers and the room shook with laughter at many a sly dig at dignity! More speeches and then a huge parcel for each man. In the officers' mess, one officer with a penchant for guns received some thirty popguns of assorted sizes and shapes, and the air resounded with their popping for the remainder of the evening.

Then, shortly after Christmas, the first squadron went to Iceland and everyone was very proud to know that the enemy would feel the blows from an Air Force that was said to have been completely wiped out. The first fighter squadrons went over shortly after—pilots who had fought in the war in Norway. Soon we learned that Olav was missing on operations from Iceland, and shortly after that "missing in action . . . killed in action . . . prisoner of war . . " appeared all too frequently on the daily orders—and the second Christmas there were many ghosts to haunt us—good friends gone to a happier hunting ground.

The usual celebrations were held and this time there was a christening ceremony at the church service on Christmas afternoon when a little Norwegian-Canadian was baptized—another link uniting the allies for the future. But faces were more strained this year as the boys arriving from Norway told of the hunger and want of the people at home. But the ray of hope was always that their spirit was on top—and so those on this side must not let them down.

Someday in Norway many sweethearts, wives, parents, children and friends—yes, many people that are not relatives of the boys at all—will know that they have been uppermost in their thoughts. Parcels of cloth and blankets selected by the boys from material available from the Argentine—a fur coat bought and put away until it could be taken home to a sweetheart—and many another trinket purchased at random and stored away for that great day,—will be all that many of those who have waited will receive for many of the boys who bought them will never return to Norway. They are buried in France, in Belgium, Holland, and many in unknown graves.

And the third Christmas came—with many new faces amongst the officers in command and the boys in training . . . boys who had escaped under threat of death half way around the world, in row boats, in sail boats, with stories of unbelievable atrocities inflicted on their countrymen . . . hunger . . . reprisals . . . but always that the spirit was on top and before another Christmas should come. . .

When We Go Back—

There were farewell parties at the camp for those you felt you would never see again. Reports came back of the wonderful job being done by the fighter squadrons. Boys trained at Little Norway went over as replacements. There was praise for the excellent work of the ground crews—and everyone was proud of their achievements. Then Jens was gone—and I thought of the letter I had from him, written the night before he went out on his last trip, and of his two small sons whose picture he had given me and of his wife and all he had told me about them—always anxious to talk of them and hoping he would not bore me. And then Chris buried in Souvenir Cemetery near Paris—he looked more French than Norwegian—and Rolf and Olav Bakke . . . and the many, many boys I do not mention because I did not know them personally.

Something must surely happen in the spring because the people could not live through another winter. Something must happen and they would be home in Norway next Christmas for sure. Boys returned from overseas duty drifting in and out of the office—older, not only in years—harder, with a steely look in their eyes. And many are the stories of the comradeship of the men from the Allied squadrons in the R.A.F. where some of our boys were fighting—stories of superstition, luck and life that made one proud to know these boys. And then some of them tell you of their hopes for the future of the world and Norway—what must be done by those left to make their country an example of true democracy. "Of course we say *when* we get back to Norway . . . but we know our chances and it is good to talk things over with those who will perhaps carry on."

Home For Christmas

And now in the mess quarters you notice that the men who have been here from the first are more and more quiet—many times just sitting and gazing into space. Relatives and friends have been shot and arrested. Boys are coming to Canada via Sweden now as all other avenues of escape are closed. The news is not good and the faces at Little Norway tighten yet more but the business of training goes on as usual.

Then, it is the fourth Christmas here. There are many widows at the children's parties now with their small offspring and preparations are made as usual—but the whole festival is a sham and there is no real undercurrent of gaiety. A sort of numb-

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BREWERY—MONTREAL

LET'S ALL DO MORE TO WIN THE WAR

D-59

ness begins to fill the heart—yet this *must be* the last Christmas—and there is hope only in that thought. What of this winter in Norway? Will their families be able to survive it?

The fighter squadrons continue to do a good job and the men on the reconnaissance squadrons in the far north continue on their dreary, dangerous patrols often on the coast of their own country. New recruits continue to arrive from Sweden and the camp is crowded. Then the invasion and Churchill's words 'Victory shall be ours before Christmas. . .' Everyone around Little Norway is exultant and at once they start talking of being home for Christmas.

And I think in my heart—and even say many times in spite of not wishing to dampen their ardor, "Oh, I wish you wouldn't say you'll be home for Christmas. Say you won't and then if you are it will be wonderful, but if you aren't it will be more than anyone can be expected to take!"

Nothing Like Norway

But they laugh at me and say of course it will be so. Big boxes are being packed at the supply depot—some even labelled with the names of certain towns. They do not know what they will find at home but anything is better than this uncertainty that eats into the heart. They begin to think of actually seeing the children whose baby days they have missed entirely—of everything at home. Norway—nothing quite like Norway . . . the girls . . . the fjords . . . the midnight sun . . . sailing, skiing, the shadows on the mountains, the forests just at Oslo's door where you can ski and walk—yes, Canada is wonderful but *nothing* like Norway. And Canadians are saying that in Italy and Americans in Belgium and Britishers on a hundred fronts in the world today!

With Scrooge I feel like saying "Show me no more, spirit. Remove me! I cannot bear it!"

But the ghost of "Christmas Present" is upon us and it is the fifth Christmas. This year the Norwegian boys, making no pretense now of where their thoughts are, have voted to send all their Christmas gifts not of a perishable nature to Norway now that the Allies have access to the country. There will be no gifts but there will be the usual formal celebrations. There will be the church service on Christmas eve, and the theme of the "Christmas to Come" is hope—hope that by next Christmas all the peoples of the world who are now separated from those they love may be together in a world at peace—hope that the Germans will not wantonly destroy the whole of their beloved country.

As one of the pilots said, "We have cleared the land and laid the foundation. It is up to you to build."

Basic English as Defense Weapon for Lovers of All the Arts

By HUGH GORDON

IN A detailed account from one of our popular good neighbor magazines on the subject of Basic English I failed to note the inclusion of any of the art lovers' pet words. To my mind this is a very grave omission. When this new language, which will make English the Esperanto of the world, reaches its height, the Arts must of necessity decline. Never have the Arts been able to flourish without discussion and discussion without words is impossible. Unless, of course a sign language is introduced in which case in describing Picasso's "Guernica" the sign maker might injure himself grievously.

My simple plan would require only the addition of three extra words, which would cover all known fields of the art world. They are not new words but tried and true, the friend and savior of many a critic, the constant companion of those who "adore" the arts.

The first of these buttresses of the better things in life is "artistic". This word is probably the most useful and today the most used of the three. It will cover any known situation one may find oneself in as regards the art world. It is, of course purely descriptive in quality, but in the negative may be used critically. Since Art is a delicate flower, to be nurtured in the full south sun of love with a dash of destructive criticism for fertilizer it is easily seen that this one word alone might keep it flourishing through the ages.

To illustrate my statement; it is possible to answer any query on the merits of a painting, a symphony or a ballet by saying simply "It is artistic." One has not committed oneself, one has retained one's prestige as a connoisseur and at the same time covered the situation completely. The negative form "not artistic" is just as facile and every bit as vague.

"Interesting" would be my second choice. It has almost as many uses as "artistic" and may be employed in much the same manner. Usually it is used when one is in doubt. If one is suddenly confronted by a painting say, that is slightly reminiscent of what little Gertrude did on the living room wall, all one need say is "Very interesting." This pearl of wisdom serves to suffuse the artist with a pink glow and raises you to a pedestal of authority among your friends. The fact that your friends, too, think the picture looks like little Gertrude's work makes your statement all the more convincing. (This really has nothing to do with Basic English but is a good point to remember.)

Quite a Touch

The world of music too may be covered in the same manner. The well advertised Old Masters are, of course, never "interesting" but are usually "artistic", depending largely on the quality and quantity of advertising and the number of movies that have been made about them. The more modern composers are, without exception "interesting". You will be quite safe in using this word to describe any music that sounds as though it was a cross between the stock yards and a boiler factory.

In third place comes "touch" which can be applied only to the musical world. In its way it is every bit as useful as the other two. It is especially so in answering queries of fond mothers re little Sydney's progress on the pianoforte. Little Sydney, by the way is twelve, spotty and precocious for twenty. After four years' study of the piano he plays "Rustling Leaves" with all repeats and all pedals down. It will be obvious to any student of the new English how desirable it is to retain this word if only to gracefully extricate oneself when called upon for a comment on Sydney's playing. It is so simple with a mere "He has quite a touch."

Are we then for the addition of three small words to let the great heritage of art sink to oblivion? To many the artistic world is the wine of life. Shall they be deprived of their pleasures because a hard commercial world has simplified only the language of trade?

Our great leaders who are interested in Basic English should remember that when our enemies are conquered and the bound ones of the world liberated we have no right to torture their minds with art and no weapon to defend themselves.

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This Christmas ought to make a woman happy

More than ever before, this Christmas, that ancient greeting of peace on earth and good-will to men has significance . . . holds hope for a brave and better world. It is a Christmas when gentle thoughts and kindly gestures are more than ever precious . . . when high courage earns solace and faith, its rewards. It is a Christmas when women, the world over, see a new light in the sky, a new hope dawning . . . a Christmas when women need to be assured of love and of loveliness. On such a Christmas no gift has more significance than that designed BY a woman FOR a woman. Such gifts as these by Elizabeth Arden!

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CONCERNING FOOD

Ye Hearty Old Time Wassail Has Undergone a Change of Spirit

By JANET MARCH

PEOPLE who write annually about Christmas and the New Year have a habit of talking pretty nostalgically about the good old days when the mistletoe hung high, the Yule log burned and the town was full of wassailers, who apparently are people who amble around with punch bowls under their arms offering a drink to anyone who comes along. Well, the good old times have produced some pretty poor new times including two frightful wars in one quarter century. So let's not pin our faith to this "Ye Old Tyme" stuff. Let us hope, rather, that the Christmases in our immediate future will be regarded as the time when the world became newly awakened to the real meaning of "And on earth, peace, good-will toward men."

In spite of the fact that more horrible things seem to be happening every minute of the day, the old carols still cheer us. We still worry about that page in "Good King Wenceslas" who got so cold. And the night seems to be bright and peaceful when voices carry the melody clearly. Surely all of us have something to rejoice about with other good Christian men, and the children's trebles singing Frances Chesterton's carol are lovely:

"How far is it to Bethlehem?
Not very far.
Shall we find the stable-room
Lit by a star?

"May we stroke the creatures there
Ox, ass or sheep?
May we peep like them and see
Jesus asleep?"

We are all hoping that next year the carols may sound round a world at peace.

There is a modern and violent carol by Hilaire Belloc which should pep us up in wartime—

"I pray good beef and I pray good beer
This holy Night of all the year
But I pray detestable drink for them
That give no honor to Bethlehem."

This is one verse of "The Sailor's Carol" and the other two are just as violent, and I am sure we all wish our sailors everywhere their good beef and beer this year.

Fancier drinks than beer are pretty hard to come by even when you are trained to stand in line and know the right days to do it. If you have been clever enough to collect some bottles of Canadian wine you can spin it out further by making punch with it.

New Year's Punch

½ bottle of Canadian port
1 bottle of Canadian claret
1 wineglass of cherry wine
Juice of 2 oranges
Juice of 1 lemon
3 bottles of soda water
Sugar to taste
Ice

Add the soda water just before serving.

If you like stirring things over the fire try this recipe for mulled port.

Mulled Port

1 orange
4 glasses of concord
6 whole cloves

Roast the orange in a moderate oven until it is brown, then cut it in quarters and put in a pan along with the concord and the cloves. Heat very slowly stirring all the while. Take out the cloves and then drop a quarter of orange into each glass and pour on the wine. Sip while still very hot.

Fruit Cup

½ bottle of Canadian sherry
1 bottle of white dry wine
1 large bottle of soda
6 halves of peaches cut up
Orange peel
4 tablespoons of sugar

Stir the sugar into the sherry till it is dissolved, then add the peaches cut up and the orange rind shaved very thin. Pour in the white wine and the soda. Serve with ice.

If your fifteen-year-old daughter is having a party, here are a couple of recipes for punch.

Ginger Ale Punch

4 oranges
1 lemon
1 glass of cold strong tea
1 pint bottle of ginger ale
1 pint bottle of soda water
Sugar to taste

Add the ginger ale and the soda just before serving, and float some slices of orange in it for looks.

Grape Ginger Ale

1 pint of ginger ale
1 pint of grape juice
3 tablespoons of lemon juice
2 tablespoons of orange juice
2 tablespons of powdered sugar

Mix all the ingredients and chill well.

Black sequins on a black crepe frock are repeated in a miniature motif on cuffs of black gloves. As contrast, shocking pink coq feather hat.

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and
T is for T-E-X-T-U-R-E

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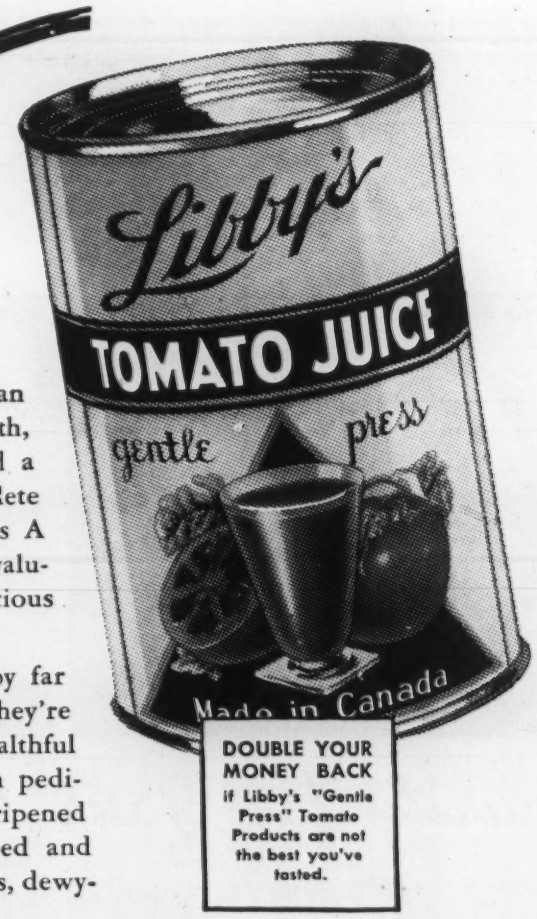

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1 can Libby's Tomato Juice
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1½ teaspoon malt vinegar
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THE OTHER PAGE

Psalm of the Montreal Model And Her Nether Habiliments

By ELIZABETH HARRISON

(For Samuel Butler)

UP IN the studio, under the eye of the skylight,
Languorous, unadorned beauty stands on a model-throne,
Lissom, at ease, poised as a ripe-rounded nectarine,
Bland in achievement she, the essential woman,
Feminine, perfect, young as primeval Eve.
O God! O Canadienne!

The session ends, and lightly down she skips,
Swift to her sheltering screen and hidden clothes.
How will she now emerge? What miracle
Of the couturier's art could do her justice?
Who could have gowned her? Fragonard, Boucher,
Degas, Watteau,—no lesser lover of women?

O God! O Canadienne!
She issues forth (What thing is this?) in trousers.
(She calls them pants but I still call them trousers.)
In mannish trousers and a tailored coat,
Strong, heavy tubes of cloth steam-creased and cuffed.
O God! O Canadienne!
Defying aesthetics' laws which clearly state,
Irrefutably say: *A woman should*
Not, shall not, cannot, absolutely must not
Wear pants. No, no! Not pants, my dear! Not pants!
Unless she be as slim and straightly made
As adolescent boy, as birch or beech tree,
And Oh! What woman worthy of the name
Exists, but bears a broadness in the beam
Like a good boat, a fine out-swerving sweep
Amidships, taut and trim and well controlled,
But nevertheless a beam?

O God! O Canadienne!
Are you then taking fashions from your boy-friend?
Learning from man the modern cult of hiding
One's highlights under a bushel? Long, too long
Has he been at it, ever since the accession
Of Victoria the Good and the Prince Consort
(Those models of morality) when first
Woman eclipsed her legs and then her man's.
Long, too long, the followers of Prince Albert
Have practised this absurd self-mortification,
Indulging a rococo taste in pockets,
Shaming their narrow, beautiful, wedge-shaped bodies
Under festoons of tweed, and swathing Apollo
In dolorous rolls of serge.

It has been said
That women in trousers showed immodesty.
O God! O Canadienne!
If it's modesty you want, put them in trousers!
Bury those slender waists, those curving hips
That the swung skirt so liquidly enhances.
Black out those legs' miraculous engineering.
Swamp them in pants, the lamentable symbols
Of an old, mad, blind but defying prudery,
And let the human race in uniform
Of shapeless slacks to barren grave go down!

• •

DANCING

LET me remember him standing tall, straight and slim
As he waited for our young folk to go dancing with him.

Clad in soldier-khaki, he looked so brave and fine
I thought "I'd be proud indeed were he son of mine."

All set out gaily, their laughter ringing free
Laughter that comes back now hauntingly to me.

He was eager to go dancing,—Oh! He loved it so!
Somewhere in the skies he'll be dancing I know.

My thoughts cannot follow him in the daylight bright
But I'm sure he is dancing 'mid the stars at night.

F. B. S.

• •

DECLINE OF THE BRITISH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Lord Knutsford, an Old Etonian, has written to the Eton College Chronicle complaining of what he considers to be the extreme untidiness and carelessness about dress of the present-day Eton schoolboy.

IN DAYS of old at Waterloo Napoleon was beaten
By neatly turned out men of class on playing fields at Eton.
With spirit strong and head unbowed they braved the tyrants' wrath,
But they were men of sterner stuff, for they had had a bath.

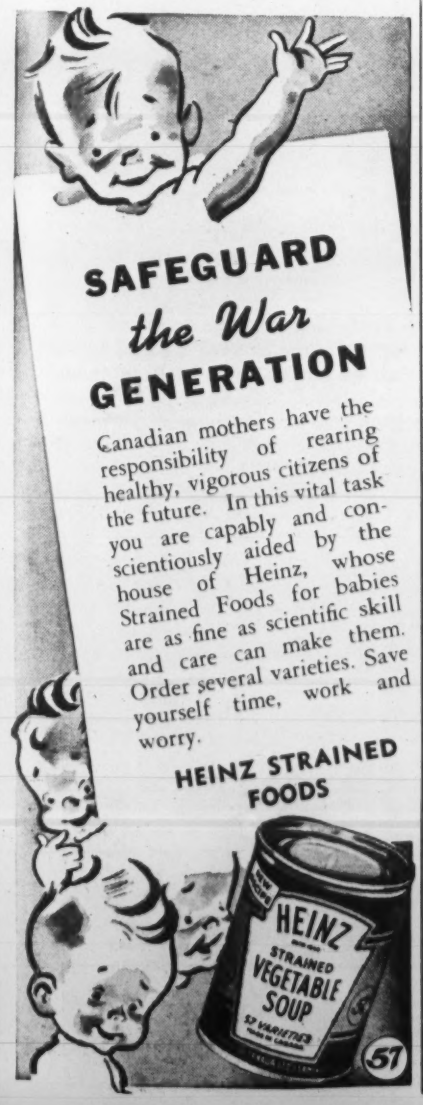
'Twas then that starch and polished boots were signs of upper crust,
For sartorial perfection was a sacerdotal must.
The shaggy head and baggy pants Etonians did shun
As evidence of lower class. By Gad—it wasn't done.

But now the Bolshie Left demands that public schools be free
To unwashed sons of vulgar men with lack of ancestry.
The august halls of Eton, of Winchester and Harrow,
Have been recognized by many as democratically narrow.
Alas the day when common clay associates with class,
And aristocratic nabobs are diluted with the mass!

For then the Mob, the Great Unwashed, proud Demos on the march
Will seek its full equality, and collars without starch.

And then the men of Eton, once impeccably élite,
Will be looked upon by riff-raff as despicably effete,
For ablutionary differences, marking lines of class distinction,
Will vanish like the morning mist, and herald race extinction.

G. STUART PATCHET.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Festive Eve

Spiked with sparkle as a holiday night . . . heady as a holiday toast. A formal dress, shoulders bared, demurely upheld with straps of strass. From a collection of formal dresses, in law-abiding length, calculated to make heads turn, and of course, at

EATON'S

Politics Will Decide Future of Control

By GILBERT C. LAYTON

Saturday Night's Financial Correspondent in London

As a means of efficient reconstruction, government control over industrial activity is a necessity. But once the reconstruction period is over control should be dropped. Mr. Layton, however, doesn't think it very likely that it will be, for the future course will be plotted as much by political as economic considerations.

London.

THE great issue in British politics and economics today is whether the Government is to continue to exercise control over industrial activity after the war. It is not a simple question.

Control over industry implies also, if it is to be effective, control over the movement of labor and over the reward of labor, control over the supply and allocation of raw materials, control over the flow of capital—control, in fact, in all that variety that makes it the *bête noir* of the traditional individualist. It implies also a particular direction in politics, consistent with its economic requirements. It implies a vision, an awareness of the end to which control is a means, and so it involves a whole social philosophy.

Because of the variety of its aspects, the subject has commanded a multitude of arguers, for and against, whose arguments must seem irrelevant to the essential question. Control has found fervent apologists on the Left political wing because this wing perceives something attractively Marxist about the removal of freedom from individual industrial producers, and it has discovered stern opponents from the Right, where the word "nationalization" is convertible with the word "control" and where any increase in the power of central government over private lives and activities is anathema.

But also it has encountered antagonism from the Left, from the working men and their unions who cannot conceive a world in which bargaining with the bosses no longer exists, and who are now aware of a world in which all such bargaining weighs heavily in their favor. And it has found a friend in the Right, which, convinced of a rightist government, is not ill-disposed to see an access to its power.

There is confusion and irrelevance in so much of the current discussion that it is right to get the basic ideas straight.

Why control? That is the first question. The answer is not the political answer, that the assumption of this wide power by the Government is a good and necessary end in itself. No assumption of power by anyone is good and necessary in itself. The answer must be, from the supporters of control, that control is the best means to the end of economic order, efficiency and development. And the rejoinder, from the opponents of control, must be that control is not the best means to this end.

In other words, the test of control is entirely an economic one, though this is not to say that once the issue is decided certain political compulsions do not flow from it. They obviously do.

Wide Control Sure

But what, on the purely economic count, is the evidence? We must assume a degree of control, and we must assume a large degree, or the whole of the Government's decision, given by Mr. Churchill, is meaningless. So much control, in an economic context which accepts the principle of free enterprise, is permissible only in terms of shortage, and this is in fact the real premise of the case for control. That there will be fewer men than jobs, less raw materials than demand, less productive capacity in the factories than call for output. So that control is really rationing; and rationing is the means to the end of first things first, and first things first is the means to the end of efficient reconstruction, and

(Continued on Next Page)

THE BUSINESS ANGLE

Pravda Says That White Lied

By P. M. RICHARDS

RUSSIA doesn't like William L. White's "Report on the Russians"—or rather, the condensation of that forthcoming book by Eric Johnston's recent fellow-visitor to Russia which appears in the December *Reader's Digest* and which was the subject of an article in this space two weeks ago. Of course, it was scarcely to be expected that Russia would hail it joyfully, as White is sharply critical of Soviet war factory methods and of the way of life of Soviet workers. But *Pravda*, as reported by the New York *Times'* Moscow correspondent W. H. Lawrence, goes so far as to term it "the usual standard production of a Fascist kitchen with all its smells, calumny, unpardonable ignorance and ill-conceived fury." White mentions specifically various inefficiencies in Soviet factory practice, including the toleraton of dirt, poor lighting, the lack of any real production line, uneven flooring, production bottlenecks. *Pravda* says White is lying, but apparently offers no evidence to support the charge. The *Pravda* reviewer says that Eric Johnston said frankly in a Moscow speech that he did not like everything he saw; he was "rather unusual but polite", and on his return to the United States presented his opinions of Soviet Russia without prejudice. In contrast, White's writings are stated to be "full of hatred for the Soviet Union".

A Free-Enterpriser's Viewpoint

At first I too thought that White must have been looking for bad rather than good things in Russia, until it occurred to me that he was looking at Russia as a free-enterpriser and comparing its operating efficiency with that of American industry. This, surely, he was quite entitled to do. White is a newspaperman; his fellow-countrymen have a high regard for Soviet war achievements; some of them apparently want to see the Soviet way of life adopted over here, and Russia herself is commonly believed to want that too.

The basis of Russia's system is state capitalism; the basis of the United States' and Canada's system is private capitalism. Since we would have to discard our own system to adopt Russia's, involving great changes in our way of life, it is surely reasonable that we should seek to appraise that system as closely as possible, to see whether or not we would be likely to benefit by the exchange. Russia's pleasure or displeasure with what is said about her industry is not the point at issue, but rather whether we approve or disapprove of what we see in Soviet-land. The important thing is that the examination be objective and the report be honest.

In the present case there is no indication that Mr. White is a tool of private capitalists or reactionary elements or of anybody else; he is a war correspondent and has been editor of the Emporia (Kansas) *Gazette* since the death of his father, William Allen White; the *Reader's Digest* says he is "well known for his liberal political views". He no doubt talked over his impressions of Soviet industrial methods with Eric Johnston, a highly competent American industrialist, and it might be thought that the Russians would be glad to have any criticism or suggestions that might lead to improvement.

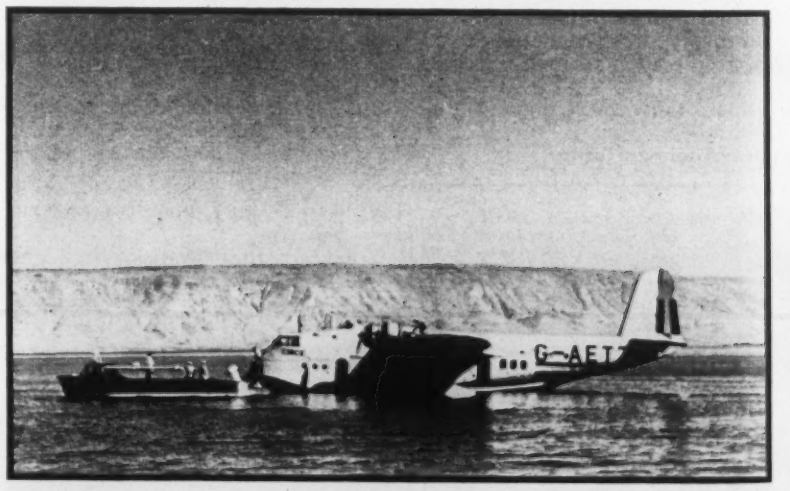
What Have the Russians to Hide?

And surely it is not unreasonable to suppose that if the leaders of Soviet Russia were genuinely convinced of the soundness and merits of their system and of its superiority to that of the United States they would be glad to have Johnston enter upon an "open forum" discussion with Soviet engineers of the rival attractions of the two systems. But was this the case? White tells us in "Report on the Russians" that when Eric Johnston was answering questions on American wage and working conditions from an interested group of Soviet factory staff men, he was tapped on the shoulder by the N.K.V.D. plain-clothes man who always accompanied him and told that they would now go immediately to inspect the plant. "Maybe," says White, "the N.K.V.D., which controls what Russians are allowed to know, didn't like these spur-of-the-moment, uncensored explanations of how American business ticks". So it would seem, and the fact (if it is a fact) is surely significant.

Correspondents returning from Russia have reported that they were not allowed to send dispatches which Soviet censors deemed critical of Soviet life, and were even told on departure that they would be refused readmittance if the stories they wrote back home were unfriendly to Russia. But the great bulk of public opinion in Britain, the United States and Canada is very sympathetic to Russia and intensely interested in her great social experiment; it knows that the exigencies of war must have created abnormal strains and stresses in Russia as in other warring countries. It looks hopefully and admiringly to Russia as a land of achievement and promise without necessarily believing that it is or will be Utopia. It wants to know everything possible about Russia. But the present leaders of Russia are apparently willing that we should hear only what they want to tell us. Why is this? What have the Russians to hide? Is it that the Russian social structure lacks the element that is the very foundation stone of democratic society, the freedom of the individual?

War Brings Many Changes to Ancient Bible Lands

Palestine, the Holy Land, whose soil Crusaders died to wrest from the hands of the infidel, once again echoes to the sound of marching feet. For Palestine today is a bastion of Allied defence in the Middle East. Many of the British Empire troops stationed there are Australians, and the ancient olive groves, cultivated in the time of Christ, here form an exquisitely springlike background for British troops on patrol duty. Lake Tiberias (below), in the New Testament more often called the Sea of Galilee or Lake of Gennesaret after the fertile plain bordering it on the northwest, serves today as a seaplane base for fast clipper planes carrying mail and passengers between Australia and Palestine. Countryside and towns along its shores were the scene of much of Christ's ministry. He was called the Galilean and His disciples were mostly fishermen who cast their nets where today great flying boats lie anchored.



The whole land is so rich in religious and historical associations that Empire troops take advantage of every opportunity to visit storied spots. Picture below shows Australians on a visit to ancient city of Bethlehem.

efficient reconstruction is a means to the end of a higher standard of living.

Viewed in this position, control becomes a self-evident necessity, as an initial means. It is quite plainly true that there will be shortages, and that there will be a tendency towards waste, overlapping and misdirection of production, unless the satisfaction of prior-ranking wants is put first. The Government is fond of quoting the unholy mess which followed 1918 as its justification for retaining control, and there is a lot in this argument.

But can it in fact be argued that the persistence of control beyond the period of shortages is required to produce optimum economic efficiency, as in the chain of argument stated above? And, if this argument will not hold water, can it be said that the retention of control in the reconstrucion period, which will certainly be no less than 4 or 5 years will not leave a permanent mark upon the economy?

Looking beyond the phase of resurgence, it is impossible to avoid the compelling arguments for the reinstitution of private enterprise. In particular industries the directing hand of central authority could do much good. In the coal industry, for instance, there is far too great a number of small independent concerns to achieve maximum efficiency in output.

Profit Indispensable

But in general private enterprise is an indispensable part of the system of production for profit, and not all the gods in the Marxist calendar have displayed any incentive to enterprise and initiative comparable to profit. Practical Communism, in the U.S.S.R., has already restored this incentive substantially. Since economics cannot deal with mysticism and may not deal with those esoteric phenomena which are reputed to inspire mental work for nothing, economics must say that except in seriously disjointed conditions, when nothing is normal, the profit motive is desirable, because it has shown itself a potent economic inspiration.

If this is agreed, and if it is agreed that the profit motive can operate fully only in conditions of free private enterprise, then the economist will demand to know at what stage in postwar resurgence the Government will drop the pilot of control, whose guiding hand was necessary between Scylla and Charybdis, and hand over the traditional helmsmanship of private enterprise.

If it were possible to hope that this entirely economic question would be decided on entirely economic grounds, the answer would be easy enough. It would be that once the stage of acute shortage was over, control would be removed. But the reality will be different. We shall find this problem overlaid with political prejudice, so that neither side sees or speaks straight, and no one can answer the question, "how long control?", without first being able to say whether the next Government will be Conservative or Labor. And on that proposition none but the brave are confident, and they are likely to lose their bets, too.

NEWS OF THE MINES

For Revival of B.C. Gold Mining, Need is Revision of Taxation

By JOHN M. GRANT

CANADA'S third most important gold producer, British Columbia, which in 1943 contributed close to 7% of the output, is slated for a further decline in production this year due to war conditions and the consequent acute shortage of labor. It is expected the 1944 value of the yellow metal crop in that province will be under $6,000,000, as compared with close to $9,292,000, last year and $18,262,050, in 1942. As recently pointed out by Hon. E. C. Carson, Minister of Mines for B.C., 18 gold mines have closed during the past two years and the eight remaining in production were having a difficult time to keep operating. Some of them, he said, had to alternate between development and breaking of ore, and accordingly have been milling intermittently. Copper mining in B.C. has fared little better than gold mining and the two big producers have suffered losses comparable to those in the gold mines; in fact, copper, lead and zinc mining will do well to hold its own in the current year.

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A revision of mine taxation appears essential if there is to be a revival of gold mining in British Columbia. In this connection the British Columbia *Financial Times* points out that "re-opening of gold mining in British Columbia now looms as definite possibility in the near future and with it comes the necessity for a review of at least one Federal taxation law which tends to discourage starting of new ventures, say mining men interested in planning now for large scale future development. The contentious regulation, especially insofar as interested United States capital is concerned, is the income tax law which states that mining firms shall pay income tax starting with the first year's profits." The B.C. paper makes a strong plea for the revision of mine taxation and points out that already waiting for the opportunity of coming into British Columbia for the purpose of developing mining are a number of United States firms.

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The possibilities for the postwar future of gold mining in British Columbia look bright, and new productive records as well as greatly increased exploratory efforts are likely. Promising ore developments have recently been enjoyed by both Bralorne and Pioneer. Bralorne currently the province's leading producer is to date second only to Premier Gold Mining Co., in dividend distributions. Pioneer Gold Mines for a number of years the leading producer and until 1942 in second place for dividend payments now ranks third. The ore position at Bralorne is today the best in the company's history and already there is talk of expansion of present operating facilities in the after war days. While the present mill has a capacity of 550 tons a day the tonnage handled last year was around 330. Bralorne, the only mine in B.C., which has been able to increase its ore reserve in the face of the difficult labor situation had, at the end of 1943, reserves of over 1,000,000 tons, averaging 0.508 oz. gold. Net earnings in 1943 were $1.02 per share as compared with $1.50 in 1939. Pioneer is also reported as today being in the best ore position it has been in for many years, and some interesting outside properties are held. In new ground in the main property new ore has been exposed for an approximate length of 600 feet on the 2,100-foot level and for 450 feet on the bottom or 2,500-foot horizon. Values over drift widths run around .5 oz. with widths up to 25 feet in places. The paucity of manpower prevents inclusion of figures from this new development in reserves.

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A reflection of the lack of improvement in the labor situation is definitely apparent in the Little Long Lac area. Hard Rock Gold Mines has decided to close its mill and roaster as of December 31, for a period of six months during which time the company's entire supply of underground

(Continued on Page 31)

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH? By Ti-Jos No. 62

GOING OVER YOUR PRESS NOTICES, JOE?
WHY, NO! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO GET IN THE PAPERS
THEN WHAT ARE ALL THE CLIPPINGS?
THIS ANTI-INFLATION CAMPAIGN
OH, THOSE ADS! D'YOU THINK PEOPLE READ 'EM?
SURE! EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT KEEPING PRICES DOWN!
BUT ARE THEY DOING ANYTHING?
WELL... I GUESS THEY MUST BE OR THE PRICE CEILING COULDN'T HAVE WORKED!
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It's little things that hold the ceiling—carefulness in everyday living. If we are to avoid inflation, every one of us must play fair. So let's all pledge ourselves to keep down living costs . . . Buy only what we need . . . Observe the ceiling . . . Save for the future of a happy and prosperous land!

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Due January 20	Coupon	Amount	Due January 20	Coupon	Amount
1946	3¾%	$70,000	1953	3¾%	$70,000
1947	3¾%	70,000	1954	3¾%	70,000
1948	3¾%	70,000	1955	3¾%	70,000
1949	3¾%	70,000	1956	3¾%	75,000
1950	3¾%	70,000	1957	3¾%	75,000
1951	3¾%	70,000	1958	3¾%	75,000
1952	3¾%	70,000	1959	3¾%	75,000

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In the opinion of Counsel these Bonds will be a legal investment for funds of Insurance Companies registered under The Canadian and British Insurance Companies Act, 1932 (Dominion) as amended.

A Prospectus, a copy of which has been filed under the provisions of The Companies Act, 1934, as amended will be furnished upon request.

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"Risk Capital"

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One question naturally suggests itself—what degree of risk against the commensurate possibility of capital appreciation.

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We are financing several exceptional 'risk' opportunities which are at a very desirable stage from the standpoint of the investor, and we invite inquiries from investment houses and others to whom this question of 'risk' investment will become increasingly important.

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McCALLUM HILL BLDG. . . . . REGINA, SASK.
411 AVENUE BUILDING . . . . SASKATOON, SASK.

GOLD & DROSS

It is recommended that answers to inquiries in this department be read in conjunction with the Business and Market Forecast.

L. H. B., White Rock, B.C.—While the two companies to which you refer are located in the same area, have almost identical management, as well as similar financial sponsorship, the similarity ends there. BAYVIEW RED LAKE GOLD MINES is the new company formed to take over the property of Gold Frontier Mines. It is reported $50,000 has been paid into the treasury to cover the new program of exploration planned. Options on further blocks of stock will provide an additional $350,000 if all are exercised. In previous work two shafts were sunk and lateral work is said to have outlined a considerable tonnage of ore grading .5 oz. per ton. The purpose of the new work is to develop as large a tonnage of ore as soon as possible with a view to putting the property into production when conditions permit.

B. D. M., Alliston, Ont.—Holders of approximately 65 per cent of the common shares of DAIRY CORPORATION OF CANADA have signified their intention of accepting the new offer of SILVERWOOD DAIRIES for an exchange of shares on a share-for-share basis. This is a big improvement over the previous offer, submitted through a brokerage firm on behalf of A. E. Silverwood, president, Silverwood Dairies. The previous offer was on the basis of one Silverwood common for two Dairy Corporation common and was opposed, whereas the present offer carries the unanimous recommendation of directors of Dairy Corporation. Dairy Corporation has outstanding in the hands of the public 78,636 common shares of no par value with net profit for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1944, equal to $1.42 a share, of which 94 cents per share was retained net. Net of Silverwood Dairies for the 1943-1944 fiscal period was equal to 66 cents a share on the common of which 39 cents represented retained net. Dividends on Dairy Corporation preferred are in arrears $7.50 per share, an obstacle to the immediate payment of dividends on the common stock. Annual dividends are being paid on Silverwood common of 40 cents per share.

E. H. B., Toronto, Ont.—Uncertainty surrounds the postwar prospects of INTERNATIONAL NICKEL due to the possibility of growing competition from aluminum and magnesium, also the likelihood of increasing competition in the European market from Russia, as well as other sources. It is reasonable, however, on account of the company's outstanding position, to anticipate a continuation of satisfactory results, and the position at the end of this war will be decidedly different than it was after the last war, when lean years were experienced until commercial markets were built up for the metal and its alloys. The company has long been formulating plans in preparation for the postwar days and as President R. C. Stanley commented some time ago, "we are planning for the transition from war to peace," and stands ready to develop and expand old and new peacetime markets. There have been no recent developments of importance which would reverse the conditions causing the reduced earnings and decline in dividends. As you undoubtedly realize it is impossible to predict what the stock market will do, but it is worth noting that price quotations for some time back have held reasonably firm. However, it might be advisable if your holdings are heavy to lessen

BUSINESS AND MARKET FORECAST

Renewed Strength in Prices

BY HARUSPEX

Over the past several weeks there has occurred an important change in the war picture. Whereas it heretofore had been rather generally assumed that the European phase of military activities would end in 1944, opinion has now generally shifted to a probable extension of the struggle by some **three to eight months.** (Raymond Gram Swing put it at 12 months). Bad breaks in the weather and failure of Russia to deliver, as expected, are the two main items that have contributed to the slowdown.

Since war, as has been the case over the past six years, remains the dominant influence on stock prices, it follows that recent developments have not been without effect on investment psychology. In the face of the implied longer period during which large war earnings and spending power will be maintained because of the European war's extension, the more cautious investment attitude of the past five months is being discarded.

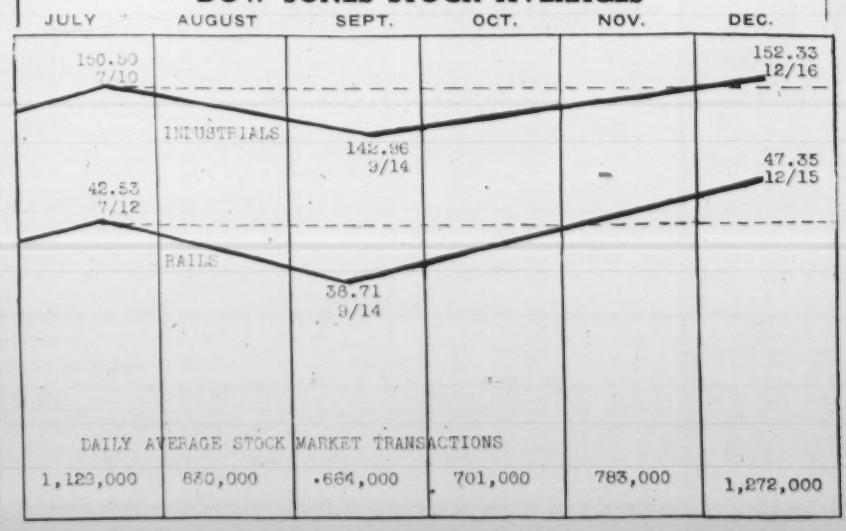
In other words, prolongation of the European conflict beyond that point—early December—when military leaders had anticipated its termination means that reconversion activities will be suspended. Having made one mistake as to the date of the German war's end, top military men don't want to make another one. Accordingly, war production is now being planned **as though the war will go on indefinitely.** This, and the tremendous rate at which munitions are being expended on the European front, **give war earnings prospects a new lease on life.**

Such a development, naturally, opens up the stock market for further bullish exploitation. In our opinion it is quite possible that price strength, in the absence of the war's sudden ending, could be witnessed between now and early February carrying the market, in terms of the Dow-Jones industrial average, to the 160-165 level previously mentioned in these Forecasts as a possible price objective in the course of the existing bull swing. The recent ability of both the Dow-Jones railroad and industrial averages to move above their previous July peaks could initiate such movement.

Not to be overlooked, in the current investment situation, is the large supply of funds that has been piling up over recent years. While

(*Continued on Page 32*)

DOW JONES STOCK AVERAGES



J. P. LANGLEY & CO.
C. P. ROBERTS, F.C.A.
Chartered Accountants
Toronto Kirkland Lake

PLAN AHEAD

The government of Canada has announced plans to finance much of the war expenditure out of current revenue. War taxes of various sorts are being imposed. To meet them the first step is to save systematically. Open an account with this Corporation and be ready when the government calls.

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FIRE and WINDSTORM

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WINNIPEG, REGINA, EDMONTON

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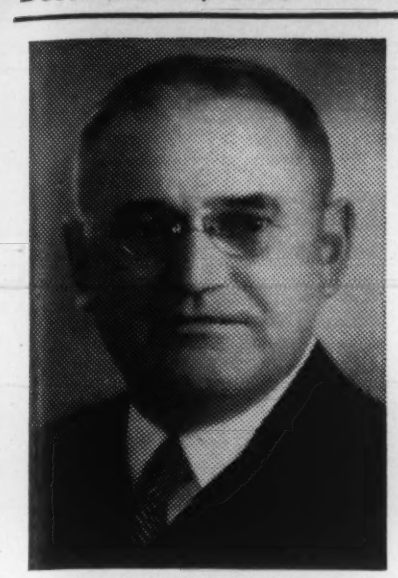

S. H. LOGAN, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Canadian Bank of Commerce, who succeeds the Right Hon. Sir Thomas White, G.C.M.G., P.C. Mr. Logan has been President of the Bank since 1937. He will continue to be actively associated with the affairs of the Bank.

GEORGE W. BOURKE, F.I.A., F.A.S. appointed General Manager of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, according to an announcement made in Montreal by the President and Managing Director, Arthur B. Wood. For the past twelve years Mr. Bourke has been Actuary of the Company. He is a Past President of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers Association.

THE TORONTO MORTGAGE COMPANY

QUARTERLY DIVIDEND

Notice is hereby given that a dividend of $1.25 per share, upon the paid-up Capital Stock of this Company, has been declared for the Current Quarter, and that the same will be payable on and after

2ND JANUARY 1945

to shareholders of record on the books of the Company at the close of business on 15th instant.

By order of the Board,
WALTER GILLESPIE,
Manager.

7th December, 1944.

PROVINCIAL PAPER LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that Regular Quarterly Dividend of 1¾% on Preferred Stock has been declared by PROVINCIAL PAPER LIMITED, payable January 2nd, 1945 to shareholders of record at close of business December 15th, 1944.

(Signed) W. S. BARBER,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Canadian Industrial Alcohol

CONVERSION to peacetime operations will present no problems for Canadian Industrial Alcohol Company Limited and the company has built up a strong liquid and cash position to enter the postwar period. In common with the distilling industry on this continent Canadian Industrial Alcohol has been engaged in recent years in the production of alcohol for war and essential purposes and some rationing of sales of beverage spirits has been necessary. The company's brands and trade names are well known and normal operations embrace the distilling of industrial alcohol as well as spirits for beverage purposes. It is expected the industry will be given holidays from distilling of war alcohol for the production of beverage alcohol to improve its inventory position in anticipation of the cessation of hostilities and resumption of normal operations. Earnings during the war years have been sufficient to cover dividend distributions, and the shares are selling in the market at a price which permits speculative investment with a moderate outlay.

Net profit for the fiscal year ended August 21, 1944, of $606,436 was an increase from $535,965 for 1942-1943 and from $212,348 for 1938-1939. The net for the latest year was all retained, the best reported by the company since 1929 and equal to 55c per share, compared with 48c a share, of which 4c was refundable tax, for 1942-1943 and 19c a share for 1938-1939. The increase in profits for the past year, as against the previous year, reflects in part the increase in the Standard Profits Base under the amendment in the last Budget which permits the base to be increased to the extent of 5% of the increase in the capital employed by the company from September 1, 1938, to August 31, 1943. Surplus has shown an annual increase, from $1,154,267 at August 31, 1938 to $1,993,033 at August 31, 1944.

The company has built up a strong net working capital and cash position with which to replenish inventories when the distilling of alcohol for beverage purposes is permitted. Net working capital at August 31, 1944, of $5,262,704 was up from $4,893,869 at August 31, 1943, and from $3,439,054 at August 31, 1939. Cash of $2,316,001 was an increase for the year from $1,946,101, and from $572,201 at August 31, 1939. Investments in marketable securities totalled $631,503 at August 31, 1944, against $405,171 at the end of the 1938-1939 fiscal period.

The outstanding capital at August 31, 1944, consisted of 988,480 shares voting stock and 123,436 shares of Class B non-voting stock, both issues of no par value. The two classes of stock rank equally in all respects with the exception of voting power.

Dividends have been paid semi-annually in recent years, with the latest distribution 20c per share December 1st of this year. There was paid in the 1942-1943 and 1943-1944 fiscal years 35c per share; 1940-1941 and 1941-1942 years 25c a share, 1939-1940 15c and 1938-1939 10c. From the formation of the present company in 1924 to 1927 dividends were at the annual rate of $1.28 per share, 1928 to January 1930 at the annual rate of $1.52 a share, with a cash bonus of 25c a share paid in January 1929. No dividends were paid from January 1930 until the distribution of 10c in November 1938.

Canadian Industrial Alcohol Company Limited, present company, is the third company operating under the same name and was incorporated in 1924 with a Dominion Charter. Voting control is understood to be owned by Hiram Walker-Gooderham and Worts Limited. The company is one of the principal manufacturers of industrial alcohols, whiskeys, gins, and commercial spirits in Canada. Subsidiaries are Corby Distilleries Limited, Wiser's Distillery Limited, J. M. Douglas & Company, Limited, and Robert McNish & Company, Limited, the latter two companies located in Britain.

Price range and price earnings ratio follows:

	Price Range High	Price Range Low	Earned Per Share	Price Earnings Ratio High	Price Earnings Ratio Low	Dividends Per Share
1944 (to date)	6½	5⅛	$0.55	11.8	9.3	$0.35
1943	6¼	3¾	0.48-a	13.0	7.0	0.35
1942	4½	3	0.50-a	9.0	6.0	0.25
1941	4	2	0.34	11.7	5.9	0.25
1910	3⅝	1⅝	0.20	18.2	8.2	0.15
1939	4⅞	1½	0.19	25.7	7.9	0.10
				13.2	7.5	

Approximate Current Ratio 11.6
Approximate Current Yield 5.5%

Note—High and Low prices for calendar years, net per share for fiscal years ended August 31.
a—Includes 4c. per share refundable tax for 1943 and 1942.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Year Ended August 31	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939
Net Profit	$ 606,136	$ 535,965-x	$ 554,140-x	$ 377,625	$ 220,112	$ 212,348
Surplus	1,993,033	1,830,966	1,683,541	1,406,659	1,240,480	1,154,267
Current Assets	6,312,494	5,915,226	5,660,239	5,047,803	4,901,326	4,433,057
Current Liabilities	1,049,790	1,021,357	1,096,463	1,028,199	1,155,270	994,003
Net Working Capital	5,262,704	4,893,869	4,563,776	4,019,604	3,746,056	3,439,054
Cash	2,316,001	1,946,101	1,101,942	939,834	208,939	572,201
Securities	631,503	631,226	557,363	428,523	223,505	405,171

x—Includes $4,658 refundable tax 1943 and $4,000 1942.

these and switch into some other stock where the early postwar outlook might be clearer.

D.S., Halifax, N.S.,—The extra dividend of 5 cents to be paid Dec. 31 by GATINEAU POWER CO. will to some extent offset the deficit, on a non-consolidated basis, reported by International Hydro-Electric System for the 12 months ended Sept 30, 1944. Operations of the System alone for the 12 months resulted in a loss of $76,382 after all charges including full interest on its 6% debentures amounting to $1,594,080. The System owns 1,439,024 of the common shares of Gatineau Power and the extra Gatineau dividend on these holdings will amount to $71,951 Canadian funds, or converting to U.S. funds, in which debenture interest is payable, to approximately $64,820 against the above loss of $76,382. If the loss otherwise for the fiscal year ended with December is not greater than that for the 12 months ended with September, the extra Gatineau dividend would go a long way in offseting the year's deficit.

S. S. L., Three Rivers, Que.—YOUNG DAVIDSON MINES is its own transfer agent and the head office of the company is located at Room 1302, 320 Bay St., Toronto. The company receives 20% of the net profit, the balance going to Hollinger Consolidated, which financed development and construction of the mill and now manages the property. No dividends have been paid in 1944, while 4 cents was distributed in 1943, hence you will appreciate the futility of trying to hazard a guess as to market action. Last year income of Young Davidson was $37,119 compared with $81,205 in the previous year and the decline was ascribed to the shutdown of the mill during the winter months. It is hoped before long to carry on operations continuously as underground development proceeds. Ore reserves are the highest in the history of the mine, amounting to 3,000,000 tons, of which 1,300,000 tons are broken ore.

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ABOUT INSURANCE

Serious Situation in the Business as Result of U.S. Court Decision

By GEORGE GILBERT

Not only those connected with the business as executives, agents and brokers but also the various State supervisory authorities are seriously concerned about the new legal status of insurance as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that insurance is commerce and so subject to federal law.

Heretofore jurisdiction in insurance has been vested exclusively with the individual States. It is now a question whether certain State premium taxes, because of their discriminatory nature, are any longer lawful. Some companies have declined to pay them, except under protest.

AS A result of the upsetting decision of the U.S. Supreme Court holding insurance to be commerce—which decision it has declined to review—an extremely perplexing situation has arisen in the insurance business across the line. Insurance regulation, which during the past 75 years has been vested exclusively in the several States, is now brought under the federal laws relating to commerce and interstate commerce, which means regulation by the federal government to a certain extent or by both federal and state governments.

In some quarters in the insurance business, the anti-trust case brought against the South Eastern Underwriters Association and certain individuals, in which the decision was given that insurance is commerce, is regarded as part of an effort to bring insurance within the realm of federal bureaucratic control. It is looked upon as a step towards collectivism, with the elimination of agents and brokers, and the transformation of insurance companies into "mere extensions of bureaucracy in which the workers are government clerks."

On the other hand, U.S. Attorney-General Francis Biddle is on record with the statement that the action of the U.S. Department of Justice against the S.E.U.A. et al is not an attack on the insurance industry, nor a part of any program for federal regulation of the insurance business, or to deprive the States of their present jurisdiction.

Enforcing Anti-Trust Law

He claims it is rather an attempt to enforce the anti-trust laws in such a way as to eliminate "practices in the insurance industry which have been repeatedly held to be inimical to the public interest." He says the Department of Justice "has no desire or purpose to break down State regulation of the insurance business." He adds: "Surely, this great business of insurance can be conducted in accordance with efficient State regulatory laws without resort to private monopolistic and coercive practices which violate federal anti-trust laws."

It is admitted, however, that since the U.S. Supreme Court on June 5, 1944, held that the business of insurance, as conducted, is interstate commerce, the regulation of insurance is within the province of the Federal Government if Congress proposes to enact the requisite legislation. But the U.S. Attorney-General asserts that at no time has the U.S. Department of Justice advocated, nor does it now advocate, federal regulation of the insurance business. Further, he says he has not heard any department or agency of the present Administration suggest such a program.

Instead of being a step towards collectivism, he claims that the suit against the South Eastern Underwriters Association is aimed at a private collectivism in the fire insurance industry which determines who shall be permitted to do business and what prices are to be charged. This claim of the U.S. Attorney-General is not well-founded, as no insurance company is compelled to join the Underwriters Association in order to carry on business or to charge the rates set by the Association, for there are many stock and mutual companies in the business which are not members of the Association and which fix their own rates.

Freedom of Competition

It is true that an essential part of the individual free enterprise system is freedom to compete, and that a free enterprise system is incompatible with restrictive price agreements or with coercive measures to exclude outsiders from an opportunity to compete. But, as a matter of fact, there is plenty of competition in the fire insurance business as well as in the other branches of insurance as to rates and coverage, and the laws of the several States prohibit unfair discrimination in the matter of rates.

Notwithstanding the disclaimer by the U.S. Attorney-General of any intention on the part of the Federal Government to interfere with the existing regulation of the insurance industry by the various States, grave concern is felt not only by those engaged in the business but also by the government officials in the various States who are charged with the supervision of the insurance business in their respective jurisdictions, and several measures have been proposed for enactment by Congress in order to remedy the situation.

One effect of the recent decision is that it gives all insurance companies certain rights under the "equality" clause of the Constitution. Under that clause the insurance companies have the right to operate in each and every State without consenting to the conditions laid down by the States for the privilege of doing business within their confines. In other words, the decision as written puts an end to discrimination against all "foreign" insurance companies (meaning other than State corporations) under their police power and their taxing power. This, it is held by certain legal authorities, is beyond the power of Congress to change.

Remedial Measures

At a recent meeting of company executives and producers, a legislative program was unanimously adopted, and agents and brokers throughout the United States were asked to request their representatives in Congress to support it in order to relieve the existing situation. Four specific recommendations were made for legislative action by Congress:

"1. A statement of principles by Congress protecting State regulation to the extent that such protection can be provided by Congress. 2. Federal Trade Commission Act not to apply to the business of insurance. 3. Robinson-Patman Act not to apply to the business of insurance. 4. Sherman and Clayton Acts not to apply to the business of insurance."

It is to be noted that this program does not ask for the exemption of the insurance business from the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, or the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended. It is held, however, that insurance regulation by the federal government or by both federal government and the States is not in the public interest, and that prompt action by the Congress to authorize continuation of State regulation and taxation is necessary "to prevent irreparable damage to the very foundations of American insurance."

There can be no question that the very extensive system of State laws for the regulation and supervision of the insurance business is imperilled by the U.S. Supreme Court decision. In the absence of further federal legislation or constitutional amendment, the entire system of State regulation is subject to question. It is contended by some observers that if no action is taken to establish federal regulation of the business, most, if not all, of the present State statutory regulations will remain effective, but, even so, present State regulation has been made uncertain. Unless remedial federal legislation is soon enacted insurance companies will be forced to engage in long and costly litigation.

Inquiries

Editor, About Insurance:

I would like to obtain information as to the extent of the fidelity guarantee business transacted in Canada during the last year or two by the Canadian, the British and the United States and other foreign companies doing business in this country. What was the volume of business transacted by each of these groups of companies and what was the average loss ratio sustained?

—G. H. L., Windsor, Ont.

According to the abstract report of the Dominion Superintendent of Insurance for the year ended December 31, 1943, the net premiums written by the 33 Canadian companies registered for fidelity guarantee insurance amounted to $686,026 in 1943, while their net losses incurred amounted to $14,170, showing an average loss ratio of 2.07 per cent. In 1942 their net premiums were $672,740; their net losses incurred, $103,911, showing an average loss ratio of 15.45 per cent. The net premiums written in 1943 by the 24 British companies registered for this class of insurance amounted to $271,422, while their net losses incurred amounted to $21,861, showing an average loss ratio of 8.05 per cent. In 1942 their net premiums were $303,315; their net losses incurred, $56,273, showing an average loss ratio of 18.55 per cent. The net premiums written in 1943 by the 15 United States companies and 1 Swiss company amounted to $294,468, while their net losses incurred amounted to $24,444, showing an average loss ratio of 8.30 per cent. In 1942 their net premiums were $315,140; their net losses incurred, $68,348, showing an average loss ratio of 21.69 per cent.

Editor, About Insurance:

I would like to obtain some information about the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company as to its financial position in this country and the protection furnished Canadian policyholders. Has it a Government deposit here and what are its assets and liabilities in Canada?

—E. D. T., Kingston, Ont.

St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, with head office at St. Paul, Minn., and Canadian head office at Montreal, was incorporated in 1865 and has been doing business in Canada since 1907. It is regularly licensed in this country and has a deposit with the Government at Ottawa of $666,110 for the protection of Canadian policyholders exclusively. At the end of 1943 its total assets in this country were $908,574, while its total liabilities here amounted to $388,862, showing a surplus of assets in Canada over liabilities in Canada of $519,712. The company, as can be seen, occupies a strong financial position in Canada.

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M. Nevill, Vancouver Branch

News of the Mines

(*Continued from Page 27*)

manpower will be diverted to development. The shutdown was necessitated to conserve ore reserves. For some time the mine and mill have been operating at a loss and the scarcity of underground crews has made it impossible to place ore in sight as quickly as it was removed. The intention is to resume production as soon as sufficient labor is available and a reasonable profit assured.

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In the same area MacLeod-Cockshutt Gold Mines also plans suspension of production with a view to concentrating on underground development. About the middle of next March milling will be discontinued for about six months as due to the war and shortage of labor the mine is behind on development. Even if the manpower situation improved before March a shutdown will still be necessary. In the meantime it is planned to put as much ore as possible through the mill. The company has ample funds on hand for the proposed development and will still retain adequate working capital.

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Preparations for getting underground development started as soon as wartime restrictions are removed and men and materials become available are being proceeded with by Rouyn Merger Gold Mines. This is the company formed earlier this year to consolidate the Hosking-Cockeram, O'Neill Thompson and East Rouyn properties, to the east of McWatters Mine. In addition to the East Rouyn orebody, indicated by previous drilling, and recently extended, encouragement is being met with in drilling of the O'Neill Thompson ground to the east, and indications point to the property becoming a medium grade producer.

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The four most active mining issues on the Toronto Stock Exchange in November were Aubelle, Wasa Lake, Bidgood and Northland, with 766,911; 568,650; 552,303 and 466,700 shares, respectively. With the exception of Northland all advanced in price. Volume of trading for the month amounted to 11,855,989 shares as against 10,400,632 in the previous month. Value of shares traded at $19,784,288 showed an increase of more than $3,000,000 on the month.

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Ontario's production of gold for the month of October was valued at $5,084,934, being the lowest month in 11 years. While tonnage was slightly above the previous month owing to the longer working period the grade still continued to trend lower. Thirty-nine mines contributed to the month's output, 14 of which were in the Porcupine area, nine in Kirkland Lake and seven in the Patricia district. Production for the first 10 months of 1944 amounted to $54,288,270 as compared with $67,585,476 in the like period last year.

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A current value equivalent to $11.34 per share was shown at the end of the fiscal year, August 31, for Proprietary Mines Limited, in its net assets, consisting of cash, receivables, bonds and certain marketable securities. Its holdings include 1,011,875 shares of Kerr-Addison Gold Mines. Net profits of 34.4 cents per share were earned in the 12 months as against 37.6 cents in the preceding year, and the decline in income was due largely to the decrease in dividends from Kerr-Addison. No work was undertaken during the year on any of the company's mining interests with the exception of Kerr-Addison.

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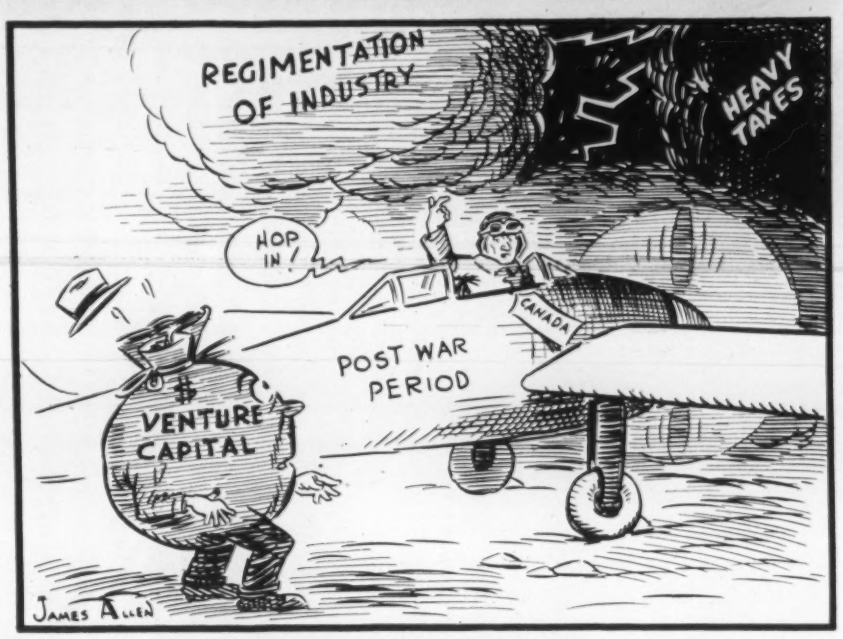
In the opinion of F. V. Seibert, president, Manitoba Chamber of Mines, there is excellent promise for a substantial increase in postwar gold mining in Mid-West Canada. Mr. Seibert points out that the Red Lake and Kenora districts of Ontario, the Herb-Snow Lakes district of Northern Manitoba, and the Yellowknife district, North West Territories, all had witnessed substantial prospecting activity during the past summer, and that at least two large scale gold mining operations are assured, namely, the Nor-Acme property at Snow Lake, held under lease by Howe Sound Exploration Co., and the Giant Yellowknife property under development by Frobisher Exploration Co. Moreover, Mr. Seibert states, the results of the past summer's prospecting gave good promise for these four districts that new mines will be developed and that most of the existing mines will expand their operations when labor is available and wartime restrictions on opening new gold properties are lifted.



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Renewed Strength in Prices

(*Continued from Page 28*)

a favorable credit situation, as the market decline from 1939 into 1942 demonstrated, is of little support to stock prices when public psychology is in a pessimistic mood, the money factor is important during periods when psychology is under optimistic influence. At such times surplus credit furnishes added fuel to the fires of speculation by way of permitting bullish market operations.

While the short-term outlook, on the basis of the factors recited above, is capable of contributing to additional market strength, we should like to point out that the market is at a level in conjunction with pending economic changes that suggests caution rather than the abandonment of a conservative investment attitude. A further advance could prove dangerous to those who might be drawn in to the extent that their cash reserves, held against the contingencies of the transition period from war to peace, were exhausted.

One consideration to be kept continually in mind is the fact that, domestically speaking, Canada and the U.S.A. are enjoying a boom that is based upon war activity. The U.S.A. Department of Commerce estimated, several months back, that about 150 points of the then production level (Federal Reserve index) of 235 (now around 231) was accounted for by war output. This current high level of production is reflected in excellent corporate earnings, both on the part of companies directly engaged in war manufacture and indirectly benefiting from the spending of swollen war incomes.

With the ending of the German war some substantial part of industrial production and the excess public income will be cut. One American Company, which earned $1,084,381 in the first six months of this year and sustained a net loss during August, September, and October of $200,000, is an example, although undoubtedly an extreme one, of "what can happen," as TIME puts it, "to war babies when war orders drop." While, in due course, industries released from war activity will get into civilian production—albeit at a level considerably under the war peak—there will, nevertheless, be an interval when manufacturing units will be in the throes of change-over, inventory readjustment, and layoffs of workers, all not conducive to favorable earnings trends.

Boom Past Normal

Commenting on the post-war picture our business commentator has the following, among other things, to say: "We seem to have pretty generally accepted the illusory idea that the purpose of post-war planning is to preserve wartime economic conditions after peace has returned. . . The truth is that the decrease in the flow of funds from the public treasury which will promptly result from the terminations and cut-backs in munitions contracts following the defeat of Germany will be about the same as the shrinkage in the national income which took place from the peak of prosperity in 1929 to the bottom of the depression in 1932." While the shrinkage will start from a higher level of national income than in 1929, the impact will, nevertheless, be deflationary.

Turning to the technical aspects of the New York stock market, which sets the pace for Canadian equities, it should be noted that the war boom has now been under way for some thirty-two months. This is well past the normal twenty to twenty-six month expectancy, and equals the long run from the summer of 1934 to early 1937. The bulk of this advance, took place between April 1942 and July 1943, since which time the Dow Jones industrial list has moved but 4% into new high ground. This hesitation of the market, since Italy's defeat, has constituted a tacit recognition fo the economic uncertainties of transition.

The price period witnessed from July 1943 to date is remindful of the period from February 1941 to June 1942. Throughout most of the months of that earlier period, which followed on a large decline in the market, it seemed, no matter what stock was bought, something came along and made it go a little bit lower. Throughout the period we repeatedly recommended the accumulation of stocks on the basis that they were distinctly undervalued and subsequent events have fully borne this judgment out. In the hesitation period of the past year and a half, which comes after the large 1942-43 advance, the continuing slow upward drift in prices has contributed to increased bullishness on the part of the investment public, making selling of stocks as difficult as was purchasing in 1941-42.

In view of the considerations outlined above, this forecast should like to emphasize several points. First, current strength should be regarded as an excellent opportunity to gradually shift out of issues that have had a marked boom in earnings directly or indirectly from war business. Second, sizable cash reserves should be retained in accounts for use during the depressed period that sooner or later follows a market situation such as that now under way. Third, sizable advance of the market over the month or two ahead, if it develops, should be used for further cutting down of the substantial stock positions now held in portfolios for such an eventuality.

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